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SPECTACULAR BATTLE IN MEDITERRANEAN: ITALIAN SHIP SUNK

Special to the "Telegraph"

A RUNNING BATTLE BETWEEN BRITISH AND ITALIAN NAVAL UNITS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN LAST WEEK IS REVEALED AND DESCRIBED IN A SPECIAL MESSAGE BY GRATTON MCGROARTY, "UNITED PRESS" CORRESPONDENT ABOARD ONE OF THE BRITISH WARSHIPS ENGAGED IN THE FIGHT. THE STORY DISCLOSES THAT AN ITALIAN DESTROYER WAS SUNK AND THAT AFTERWARDS THE BRITISH WARSHIPS FOR SEVERAL HOURS WARDED OFF A CONCENTRATED AIR ATTACK BY NAZI WARPLANES. THE EXCLUSIVE STORY FOLLOWS:

ATTACKED FROM DAWN TO DUSK

BY GRATTON MCGROARTY

ABOARD A BRITISH WARSHIP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, via ALEXANDRIA, Jan. 13 (UP).—I am filing this report at 7 o'clock on Friday (January 11). German planes made an intense attack on the British fleet in the Mediterranean to-day after British cruisers and destroyers had sunk an Italian destroyer in a spectacular running battle.

The Italian warship was sunk within cannon range of one of Mussolini's Mediterranean strongholds.

After the sea battle, German planes flew over and strongly attacked the British naval units.

The day's fighting continued almost incessantly from dawn to dusk when the German dive-bomber group took part in a daring concentrated attack on this ship.

Italian planes also participated in the five air attacks to-day in which seven planes are known to have been shot down.

This was the first instance of dive-bombing in this area since the start of the war.

ITALIAN FORCE CUT OFF

Ring Tightens Round Tobruk

CAIRO, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—An Italian force is understood to be cut off and besieged in the Jarabub Oasis, some 150 miles south of Tobruk.

The force is the one which, it is believed, Marshal Graziani intended to use for an attack on Siwa Oasis on the Egyptian side of the frontier.

Tobruk's Ring of Fire

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The concentration of our troops around Tobruk continues and a correspondent there reports that long convoys of British and Australian troops, guns, tanks and supplies are coming up continuously.

There has been a slackening of Italian artillery fire from Tobruk and their shooting is wild, possibly because they have no planes to direct their fire. The British gunners on the other hand are pounding away accurately, their shells going right into the town and also landing on the wells from which the Italian garrison gets its water.

The R.A.F. confirms that Italian air bases for a distance of 70 miles beyond Tobruk have been put out of action.

It is also confirmed that one Italian division has been cut off at the Jarabub Oasis 150 miles south of Bardia. It is only a question of time before this little garrison is forced to surrender.

Silence On Libya

CAIRO, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—G. H. Q. here continues to maintain a perhaps significant silence regarding the position in Libya.

The communique says, "No change in the situation."

Active patrolling continues in the Kassala and Gallabat sectors and the British have inflicted casualties on the Italians.

On other frontiers, there is nothing to report.

The communique concludes that a British patrol has routed an Italian force in an area in Abyssinia east of Gallabat, according to reports from the Sudan. The Italians withdrew after slight resistance, leaving 40 dead and many wounded.

TURN to Back Page, Column 5

GREEK SURPRISE ATTACK

Italian Posts Dislodged

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—A violent surprise attack by Greek troops has dislodged the Italians from strongly fortified positions in the central sector of the front, says the Athens radio.

Fierce hand-to-hand engagements are reported from the northern sector where the Greeks have had the advantage in bayonet fighting.

Desperate efforts by the Italians to reinforce their positions in the coastal sector north of Chimara are nullified by the spirited Greek offensive.

Rush Reinforcements

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Military quarters revealed to-day that the Italians rushed almost an entire new division into the Topelini area after the Greeks had advanced beyond Klisura.

Orders Arrest Of Princess

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—The Department of Justice has ordered the arrest of Princess Stephanie Hohenlohe of Hungary on a deportation warrant. The Princess is now at San Francisco.

BRITAIN, AFTER THE WAR

Ideals Propounded By Mr Greenwood

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—"The British Government is deeply concerned to ensure that the free spirit of man shall emerge from the ruins of war," declared Mr Arthur Greenwood, Minister without Portfolio, broadcasting to-day.

"We must help to create conditions under which nations will be able to work out their own salvation so long as they work in neighbourly relations with others and do not flout the law of nations.

"Opportunities for aggression must be restrained by the combined will and organisation of those nations which stand for orderly progress and against the tyrannical exercise of power.

"Britain after the war will not tolerate in her midst the tragic spectacle of abject poverty nor the scourge of unemployment. We shall look forward to developing our educational system and social services. We are planning to get rid of ugliness in our towns and to build a fairer Britain and to replace the hovels that remain by worthy homes."

EIRE BASES

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The High Comissioner of Eire is authorised by his government to state that there is no truth whatever in the report published in some quarters that Mr Eamon de Valera, within the last month, was offered by the Nazi Government "every possible assistance to Eire to prevent Britain from regaining control of the naval bases she had formerly leased."

Invasion Ports Raided

Destructive Work By The R.A.F.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is officially announced that the R.A.F. last night bombed the U-boat bases at Le Havre, Brest and Lorient with "good results." The aerodromes in occupied France were also bombed.

The Air Ministry announced: "The docks at Brest were attacked with incendiary bombs and high explosives. A number of heavy bombs burst along the waterfront and fires broke out. A warehouse was set ablaze and a larger fire was started at Port Militaire.

"La Havre and Lorient were attacked with high explosives which burst on the docks. The aerodromes at Vanne, Chartres, Evereux and Morlix were attacked and aerodrome buildings were set afire. A number of aircraft on the ground at Evereux were ignited. No British planes are missing."

Raids on Italy

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is officially announced that the R.A.F. attacked and heavily damaged the oil refineries at Porto Marghere near Venice, as well as the refineries at Regentsburg in Germany, and Ostend last night.

STEAMER SENDS OUT S.O.S.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. Jan. 13 (UP).—The Coast Guard has reported the steamer Otho of the Barber Steamship Company sent out a radio request for assistance giving her position as being about 400 miles off Cape Hatteras.

There are no details other than that the steamer said: "Extremely urgent assistance needed: standby." It is assumed a heavy sea has made her unmanageable.

ATTENTION ON THE BALKANS

With persistent reports of Nazi troop concentrations in Bulgaria and new threats to Greece and Turkey, attention has again been diverted towards the stormy Balkans. Turkey is said to have intimated that she will declare war on Germany if Nazi forces cross from Rumania into Bulgaria. Meanwhile Bulgaria is insisting upon remaining neutral in the present European conflict. The accompanying map illustrates the areas affected by the latest reports from south-eastern Europe.

Clarification Of Balkans Situation

(By "Reuter's" Diplomatic Correspondent)

LONDON, Jan. 13.—Two important official pronouncements during the past 24 hours, one Russian and the other Bulgarian, have helped to clarify the immediate outlook in the Balkans.

They dispose of Nazi-inspired rumours that Germany and Soviet Russia have made a "deal" in the Balkans or that Russia has agreed to the passage of German troops through Bulgaria.

In these circumstances it is probable that the stories of large troop concentrations in Rumania are equally inaccurate though there is undoubtedly a considerable garrison in that country to protect the oilfields.

The Russian statement, coming so soon after the Soviet-German economic and northern frontier pact, emphasises the strictly limited scope of that pact. It also makes clear that the absence of any reference to the Balkans is not an oversight, but is due to the fact that no agreement was reached on the subject.

Bulgarian Declaration

The Bulgarian declaration was made by the Prime Minister, M. Filoff, only a few days after his recent return from Vienna. He reaffirmed Bulgaria's policy of peace and neutrality and alluded to the help of Russia in the recovery of the Dobrudja and he repeated that neither the Nazi nor the Communist system of government was suitable for Bulgaria.

The special significance of this speech is that it was possible for M. Filoff to make such uncompromising statements in the midst of the nerve war which Nazi agents have been fostering and promoting in the Balkans. It suggests that the German scheme has failed to upset the Bulgarian Prime Minister's equilibrium despite tendentious reports that his position is unstable.

Floods Sweep Turkey

Bridges, Roads Wrecked

ANKARA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Many lives were lost and much damage was caused by disastrous floods in the Antioch region in Turkey where the River Asi overflowed following torrential rains.

The floods swept away bridges, wrecked mills, destroyed roads, uprooted trees and inundated farm lands over a wide area.

The losses of livestock have been heavy and communications are completely disrupted.

Inhabitants are being evacuated from a large zone.

The rains continue.

QUISLING ARMY

—On Paper

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Some Quislings have enrolled in a Norwegian "regiment" which their leader is attempting to raise in order to fight with the Germans against Britain.

Appeals for recruits take up much space in Quisling newspapers in Norway, where it is declared that the regiment will be known as the Nordland Regiment.

The latest Quisling Party propaganda is an attempt at culture; giving almost superhuman powers to the Party's leader.

Manhattan Is Still Aground

Listing Heavily

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. Jan. 13 (UP).—The Liner Manhattan which ran aground at Lake Inlet, seven miles north of here last night, is still hard aground, despite the fact that two revenue cutters attempted to release her at high tide. It appears that further assistance will be necessary.

The vessel is listing 15 degrees to port with the United States flag which is painted on her side barely above water. The passengers numbering 199 are still aboard.

To Remove Passengers

WEST PALM BEACH, Florla, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Coastguards tried fruitlessly for hours to refloat the liner Manhattan.

Several hawsers snapped during the attempts and ground swells carried her further ashore.

Arrangements are being made to remove the liner's 200 passengers.

Some passengers of the Manhattan were taken off by Coast Guard cutters but surf swells interfered temporarily with plans to take them all off in small boats.

Seeking To Avoid War With Italy?

U.S. Overtures To Rome Reported

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

ROME, Jan. 13 (UP).—The American Ambassador to Rome, Mr William Phillips, arrived at Genoa to-day en route to Rome, and it is reported in diplomatic circles that he is bearing a special message from President Roosevelt to King Victor Emanuel.

The message may suggest the possibility of the United States and Italy keeping out of the war should the United States and Germany become involved in conflict. Such an Axis precedent is seen in the fact that Germany still maintains a Legation at Athens despite the Italian war with Greece.

Only Brief Visit

For some time reports were current that Mr Phillips was returning to Rome for only a short time; there is a suggestion that he will return to Washington within a month or two and make a special report to the President.

It is pointed out that Mr Alexander Kirk was only recently appointed *Charge d'Affaires* at the Rome Embassy with Ministerial rank, and it is understood that he will continue in this post, despite the return of Mr Phillips.

Leeward Is. Bases

U.S. Marines Start

ANTIGUA, Leeward Is., Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Two officers arrived here during the week-end for the establishment of United States naval and air base on Crabbs Peninsula here.

Both officers—Commander Johnson and Major Max Smith—are of the United States Marines.

The building of a wharf, a dispensary, officers' quarters and a camp will be considered.

Sir Gordon James, Governor of the Leeward Islands, has granted a permit for the initiation of operations, and a building party consisting of three officers and 50 men of the United States Marines are expected to arrive at the end of January to begin work.

LATEST

See Back Page For Further Late News

Aid To Britain Bill Obstacle Is Removed: Administration Scores

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The first step to rush the Lease and Lend Bill through Congress was taken to-day when a vote in the House o Representatives cleared the way for the Bill to come before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House.

An effort by the Military Affairs Committee to bring the measure under its control was defeated.

The vote was taken without a debate as the rules of House allow no discussion on such an issue.

Mr Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, will be the first witness at tomorrow's hearing.

To-day's vote is regarded as a victory for the Administration in the first brush with Congress over the Bill.

Dollar Holdings

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Support appears to be steadily growing for the suggestion that Britain should be requested to post the bulk of her remaining dollar holdings in the United States against materials to be supplied under the Lease and Lend plan.

The influential "Washington Post" endorses the proposal but recalls Mr Andrew Mellon's statement in the War Debts debate that a good customber in Europe is worth more in dollars and cents than all war debts lumped together and asks, "Are we going to intensify the improvement of Europe which might then be our outstanding problem as well as theirs?"

Post-War Adjustment

It also draws attention to the possibility of using the Lease and Lend Bill and any provision in it, for posting collateral in order to cushion the shocks to the United States and the world generally in the period of post-war re-adjustment.

The newspaper suggests the use of part of Britain's overseas assets to buy foodstuffs and materials necessary to put post-war Europe back on its feet.

Spokesman Named

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Congressional opponents to the "Aid Britain" Bill have picked Senator Burton Wheeler as co-leader of the bi-partisan strategy group.

The Republican leader will be either Senator Robert Tafe or Senator Arthur Vandenburg. One will be named at a meeting this week to help lead the fight against the Bill. It is understood the first objective will be an effort drastically to limit the powers which will be granted to the President.

Revised Form of Bill

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—In the House of Representatives to-day, Rep. Kenneth Simpson introduced a revised form of an "Aid to Britain"

TURN to Back Page, Column 5

Belgium Prepared As Base For Invasion

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—In preparation for an attempt to invade Britain, thousands of workers have been drafted by the Germans to repair waterways and bridges destroyed during the invasion of Belgium, according to news received in London by the "Free Belgian" news service.

The Germans have aimed first at re-establishing navigation between Bruges and Ghent and the port of Antwerp. Men have been working day and night to repair canals.

Some 750 bridges were destroyed during the fighting last May and hundreds of ships were sunk in the waterways and ports.

A system of "voluntary" labour service on the Nazi model has been started in Belgium and a special camp is due to be opened this week for the instruction of leaders to take charge of labour camps.

Despite the propaganda drive carried on for some months, the number of "volunteers" for the labour service is very small.

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Water In Storage Decreases

Consumption High

The contents of the Island reservoirs at the end of December showed a slight decrease as compared with the corresponding date in 1939, there being 1,524.81 million gallons as against 1,566.52 million gallons, according to the monthly report issued by the Water Authority.

On the Mainland the storage at the end of December was 1,960.23 million gallons, compared with 2,660.46 million gallons.

The consumption of water on the Island during the month totalled 491.29 million gallons (including 216.92 million gallons from the Mainland and 7.77 million gallons of unfiltered water) by an estimated population of 830,000 at the rate of 19.1 gallons per head per day. This compared with 445.77 million gallons (including 197.13 million gallons from the Mainland) by approximately 960,000 persons (including villages) at 16.7 gallons per head per day during December, 1939.

In Kowloon, excluding the Lai Chi Kok Water Boat Dock, the consumption during the month was 340.62 million gallons by an estimated population of 770,000 at 14.3 gallons per head per day, as against 312 million gallons by 890,000 persons at 11.3 gallons per head per day in December, 1939.

The Lai Chi Kok Water Boat Dock consumed 4.47 million gallons as against 7.19, while the consumption of unfiltered water in the villages totalled 14.38 million gallons, compared with 10.74.

During the month, there was a constant supply for four days, and a 17-hour supply for the remaining days. In December, 1939, there was a 17-hour supply throughout.

The reports of the Government Bacteriologist and Analyst show that the quality of the water both on the Island and Mainland was excellent.

The rainfall in inches recorded during the month were: Botanical Gardens, .13; Tytam Tuk, .31; Tytam, .44; Wong Nei Chong, .02; Pokfulam, .02; Royal Observatory, .100; Shing Mun No. 1, .06; Shing Mun No. 2, .05; Shing Mun No. 3, .03; Kowloon, .08; Shek Li Pui, .06; Taipo, .09; Fanling, .07; Tai Lam Chung, .06. No rainfall was recorded at Aberdeen, Shing Mun No. 4, Shing Mun No. 5 and Un Long.

The total rainfall recorded by the Royal Observatory during 1940 was 117.090 inches, as against 86.705 in 1939.

INDIAN WEDDING

Popular Sportsman Weds Miss Butt

The wedding took place at No. 2 Fort Street yesterday at 4 p.m. of Mr Dawood M. A. Razack and Miss Armina Butt. The Rev. Mulvi Noor Shah officiated.

THE BRIDEGROOM, who is connected with Messrs Gilman & Co., is the son of Mr and Mrs M. A. Razack and is a well-known local sportsman.

He was educated at St Joseph's College and during his school days represented the School at both cricket and football. He was an extremely fast left-winger and an athlete of no mean ability, being an excellent sprinter.

After leaving school he continued to play football and cricket regularly and represented both Craigengower C. C. and Indian R. C. at Cricket and was for many years a member of the Indian R. C. tennis teams.

After the ceremony a reception was held at the Indian Recreation Club.

At Registry Office

Mr T. S. Whyte-Smith, Registrar of Marriages, officiated at the Registry wedding of Mr Mak Shiu-hi, merchant, to Miss Lui Pui-sheung, of Lan Kwai Fong, yesterday.

The following weddings took place at the Registry yesterday, before Mr J. Reynolds, Deputy Registrar:

Mr Tang Kai-fun, merchant, and Miss Lai Yee-lan, student;

Mr Chan Man-see, clerk, and Miss Lee Shuk-yee, of Canton Road;

Mr Kho It, *alias* Kho Tiak-kiu, student, and Miss Fok Wai-han, student;

Mr Chan Kai-lun, clerk, and Miss Ng So-lan, of Hing Hon Road;

Mr Cheng Shiu-ki, and Miss Tsang Shiu-mei, of Kwong Ming Street;

Mr Yue Chan-fook, building contractor, and Miss Leung Woon-wah, of Dragon Terrace;

Mr Ho Shek-chuen, merchant, and Miss Shum Yee-wan, of Tunglowan Road.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE

Mr. V. G. Bowden, Australian Trade Commissioner in China, will arrive in Hongkong about the middle of the present month for a short visit and will be glad if parties desiring to consult him in connection with Australian Trade will communicate with him, c/o Mr. S. T. Williamson, 5th. Floor, P. & O. Building.

NOTICE

DEFENCE REGULATIONS 1940

The following rates will be charged for mailing single copies of the following newspapers abroad:—

South China Morning Post
China and Macao
16 cents per copy

British Empire and Foreign
25 cents per copy

The Hongkong Telegraph
China and Macao
14 cents per copy
16 cents Saturdays

British and Foreign
20 cents per copy
25 cents Saturdays.

RADIO

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H. K. T.

12.15 p.m. Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 Tino Rossi (Tenor) and the Orchestra Raymonde.

1.00 Local Time Signal and Weather Report.

1.03 Arthur Askey in Variety.—

1.30 Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 Dance Music by Ambrose and His Orchestra.

2.15 Close Down.

5.45 **Indian Programme.**

6.30 Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 Schubert—Symphony No. 8 in B Minor (The "Unfinished").—1st Mov: Allegro moderato, 2nd Mov: Andante con moto, Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leopold Stokowski.

6.55. Interlude.—Soiree de Vienne No. 6—(Schubert-Liszt),—Wilhelm Backhaus (Piano).

7.00 London Relay—The News.

7.15 London Relay—"Questions of the Hour."

7.30 A Portuguese Programme.

8.00 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

8.03 An hour of Variety

9.00 London Relay—The News and News Commentary.

9.30 London Relay—Talk: "Scots Abroad".

9.45 Scottish Programme.

10.15 Dance Favourites.—Scatter-

11.00 Close Down.

BLACK-OUT FAULTS

Education In A.R.P.

Preparations are in hand locally for a mobile exhibition to educate the populace in effective means of screening lights during black-outs.

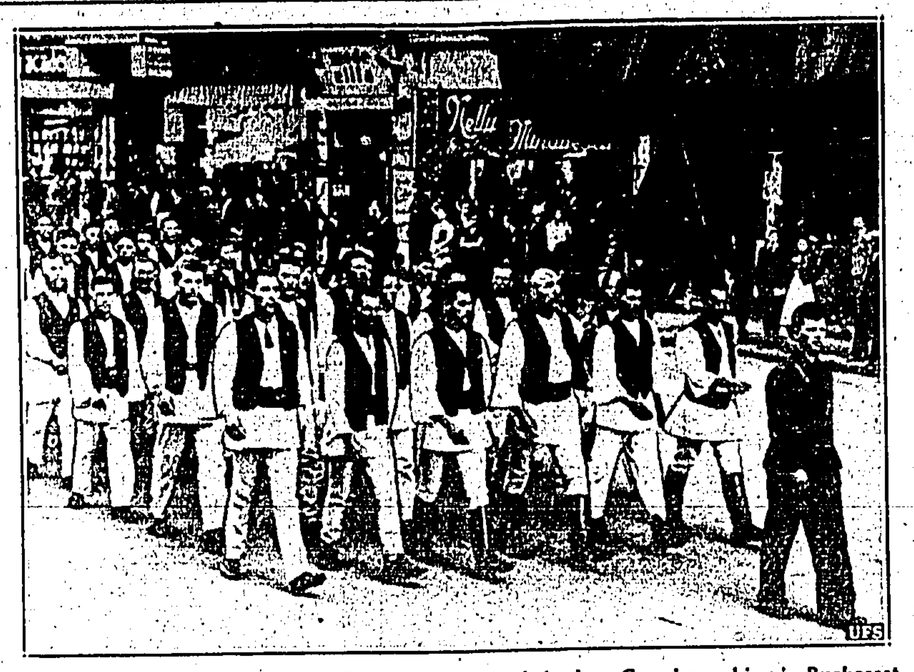
There will be two travelling units, each consisting of a lorry and six Wardens, and each lorry will be accompanied by members of the Police Reserve

It is hoped that the units will be able to commence work on Monday, January 20, and thereafter every day from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for about five days. They will go on tour again for a further week after Chinese New Year.

The lorries, on arrival at open spaces, will come to a stop: one side will be lowered, and whilst some of the Wardens will distribute pamphlets amongst the spectators, two Wardens will act a ten-minute play comprised mostly of questions and answers on methods of screening lights. Various methods, from the employment of old cigarette tins to manufactured shades, blue and black bulbs, etc., will be demonstrated. The audiences will also be shown posters depicting common faults.

The stay of a lorry in one place will be about 30 minutes, after which the unit will move on to the next location to repeat the performance. It is thus hoped to give between six and eight demonstrations in each A.R.P. Division, and particular attention is being paid to reaching the most congested areas.

At present, Wardens are being rehearsed in the play and instructed in demonstrating.



RUMANIAN EXECUTIONERS—Peasant members of the Iron Guard marching in Bucharest, capital city of Rumania. Iron Guards defied government and began a purge of their enemies, killing scores of former King Carol's aides.

Volunteer Doctors For Chinese Red Cross

Two young men who graduated from the University of Hongkong last year have answered the call for volunteer doctors by the Chinese Red Cross Medical Relief Corps, which is the field organisation of the Chinese Red Cross, and will be leaving for the Red Cross Headquarters in Kweiyang shortly with a quantity of medical supplies. They will be working under the direction of Dr Robert Lim.

The volunteers are Dr G. M. Abraham, son of Mr R. Abraham, well-known local sharebroker; and Dr Ho Hung-chiu, grandson of Sir Robert Ho Tung. They are being financed by the Hongkong University Union Chinese Medical Relief Association.

Another volunteer, Dr T. F. Kok, is also expected to leave for the interior of China shortly on war relief work.

The recent bombing of Waichow by the Japanese, when the Catholic Hospital was destroyed and about 500 people wounded or killed, has resulted in Dr Andrew Sporrer being sent to Waichow by the Foreign Auxiliary to the National Red Cross Society of China. Dr Sporrer left Hongkong on Sunday, and it is possible that he may be assisted by Drs Abraham and Ho when they pass through Waichow on their way to Kweiyang.

Other Hongkong University graduates who are now connected with the Chinese Red Cross in the interior are Dr K. K. Cheng, Dr Eva Ho Tung, and Dr Sze.

Turkish Attitude Made Clear

German Aims In Bulgaria

Istanbul, Jan. 13.

A high Turkish official told the United Press to-day that Turkey would declare war if German troops crossed the Rumanian frontier into Bulgaria. In an official, exclusive interview he said that the next two weeks would probably disclose the intentions of the German divisions now massed in Rumania across the Danube from Bulgaria.

The same source said that the German intention was either (1) pressure or an attack on Russia, (2) an attack on Turkey with a simultaneous blow at Greece, or (3) merely protection of the Rumanian oil fields against internal trouble and possible British air raids.

Commenting on Premier Elioff's implication that American aid to Britain would spread and prolong the European war, responsible Turkish officials said.—"It will also ensure a British victory."—*United Press.*

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hongkong Stock Exchange Official Summary, issued yesterday says:

Although a steady undertone prevails the volume remains negligible.

Buyers

Union Ins. $405
H.K. Fire Ins. $105
Wharves $94
Humphreys $7.75
Trams $17.00
Star Ferries $61
Lights Rts Cts 90
Entertainments $7
Constructions "O" $1.60

Sellers

Lights Rts Cts. 95
Cements $18.60
Vibro Piling $7.70

Sales

H.K. Banks $1,380
Hotels $3.50
Trams $18
Lights Rts 90/95 cts.
Electrics $40

Manhattan Aground Off Florida

New York, Jan. 13.

The United States 24,289-ton liner Manhattan, carrying 199 passengers and 450 crew, ran hard aground today 250 yards from the shore seven miles north of West Palm Beach, Florida. She is in no immediate danger.

The vessel, which is the Line's second biggest and fastest, rammed her prow into the bank at night. While awaiting the arrival of the coastguard cutters Mojave and Vigilant from Fort Lauderdale she several times tried to break loose under her own power but was unsuccessful. The sea is calm.

The Manhattan sailed on Friday from New York for San Francisco where she was due on January 25. Recently she visited North China and Japan to take back American evacuees.—*United Press.*

Police Reserve Orders Issued

Police Reserve orders by the Hon. Mr C. G. Perdue, Acting Commissioner of Police:

Chinese Company

Strength.—The following have been taken on the strength of the Chinese Company, as from January 7, 1941:

Constables R40 Ngai Yin-chiu, R55 Chan Ka-kuk, R71 Chan Kai-ning, and R112 Louis Wong.

Leave.—Constable R13 Tang Shiu-hung has been granted sick leave from January 11 to February 10, 1941.

Training Course—Part IV.—Those detailed will attend Prince's Building, 1st. Floor, for Part IV of Training Course under Inspector (R) Lau Shiu-chuen on Wednesday, January 15, at 17.15 hours sharp.

Patrol Duty.—Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

Indian Company

Inspection Parade.—All ranks of the "A" Company will parade at Central Police Station on Wednesday, January 15, at 17.15 hours sharp for a general inspection of equipment etc., by the Company Commander. Dress—Blue Uniform, Cap with White Cover, Belt with Brace, Whistle and Chain, and Truncheon, "Pocket-Policeman" and Note-Book to be carried. The Equipment Officer will make it a point of being present.

Patrol Duty.—Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

Flying Squad

Patrol Duty.—Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

Emergency Unit Reserve

Strength.—Constables R497 A.P. de Sousa and R498 E. J. da Motta have been taken on the strength of the Emergency Unit Reserve, as from date.

Constables R453 L. A. Martin and R459 J. H. Smits not being available for duty are transferred to the non-active list as from date.

Patrol Duty.—Patrol duties will be carried out as ordered.

O. EAGER,
D/ C. P. (R)

Y'S MEN'S MEETING

"How Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek became a Christian" will be the title for a talk by Mr K. S. Lee at the tiffin meeting of the Hongkong Y's Men's Club at St Francis Hotel on Thursday.

Functions In Aid Of War Fund

K.C.C. Activity

On Saturday, January 25, the Kowloon Cricket Club are holding a dance from 9.15 p.m. till 2 a.m. The music will be provided by the dance orchestra of the 2nd Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regt), by kind permission of Lieut.-Col. D. J. McDougall, M.C., and Officers.

Light refreshments will be provided, and there will be spot prizes. Tickets are, Ladies $1.50 and Gentlemen $2; and members are requested to state their requirements on the form provided at the Club.

To benefit the Bomber Fund a $1 sweep is being organised for this occasion, with valuable prizes, many given by members. In this connection, if any member or friend has any article suitable for a prize, such will be gratefully acknowledged by the Committee, if forwarded to the Club, addressed to the Secretary.

On Saturday, February 8, at 9.15 p.m. The Band of the 2nd Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regt) by kind permission of Lieut.-Col. D. J. McDougall, M.C., and Officers, will give another concert as a further contribution on their part to the Bomber Fund, and it is hoped that the success of December will be repeated.

Tickets are at the same prices as for the dance above mentioned, and a sweep is also being run in connection with this function.

These events will be followed by another play, full particulars of which will be announced later.

By these efforts it is hoped to bring the amount contributed through the medium of the Club for the Bomber Fund up to $10,000, and this in itself should ensure generous support from all.—*Contributed.*

BANKS

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Holders of licences which expired at the end of 1940 are reminded that if it is desired to retain possession of the apparatus after the date of expiration of the licence a renewal must be effected without delay.

New Licences will be available at the Government Radio Office, G.P.O. Building, First Floor, on ordinary business days, and will be issued against the receipt of a remittance of $12.00, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. except on Saturdays when licences will be issued between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Applications may be made:—
(a) personally.
(b) by messenger.
(c) by post.

It is essential under (c) and preferable under (a) and (b) that applications should be accompanied by crossed Cheque payable to Hongkong Government. The new licence will then be sent by post or messenger as soon as it is ready. Where actual cash is tendered a new licence should be received in exchange before leaving the Licensing Office.

In the case of renewal the old licence should be returned with the application.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

Calcutta, Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by Sea from Singapore .....Jan. 14.
Sandakan .....Jan. 14.
Canton .....Jan. 15.
Rabaul and Manila .....Jan. 16.
Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (Australia only) by sea from Singapore. Jan. 16.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 9th January .....Jan. 17.
Java and Manila .....Jan. 18.
Canton .....Jan. 18.
United Kingdom and Straits Jan. 19.
Australia and Manila .....Jan. 20.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 14th January. .....Jan. 21.
Australia and Manila .....Jan. 22.
Sandakan .....Jan. 23.
United Kingdom and Straits Jan. 24.
Calcutta and Straits .....Jan. 25.

OUTWARD MAIL TIMES

Registered and Parcel Mail are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the previous day. When mails are advertised to close after 5 p.m., Registered and Parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 15
Straits and Rangoon .....3.30 p.m.
Canton .....7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 16
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways."
K.P.O. & G.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 16, 10.30 a.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 16, 11 a.m.
Straits and Calcutta
Parcels .....Jan. 16, 11 a.m.
Letters .....Jan. 16, Noon.
Manila, Mauritius, Lourenco Marques, and South Africa via Durban 3.30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 17
Sandakan .....8.30 a.m.
Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways."
K.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 17, 4 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 17, 4.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 17, 4 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 17, 4.30 p.m.
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A., and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services"
K.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 17, 5 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 17, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 17, 5 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 18
Manila, Macasser and Sourabaya 8.30 a.m.
Manila, Madang, Salamaua Rabaul, Australia and New Zealand via Sydney
G.P.O. and K.P.O.
Parcels .....Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. .....Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and United Kingdom via San Francisco (No Parcels for Canada and United Kingdom)
Note:—All mails for United Kingdom will be forwarded with or without Superscription
K.P.O.
Parcels .....Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. .....Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Parcels .....Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. .....Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 19
Haiphong .....9 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 20
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways"
K.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 20, 11 a.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 20, 11.30 a.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 20, 11 a.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 20, 11.30 a.m.
Canton .....5 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 21
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu U.S.A., and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."
Kowloon P. O.
Reg. .....Jan. 21, 5.00 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 21, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .....Jan. 21, 5.00 p.m.
Ord. .....Jan. 21, 7.30 p.m.

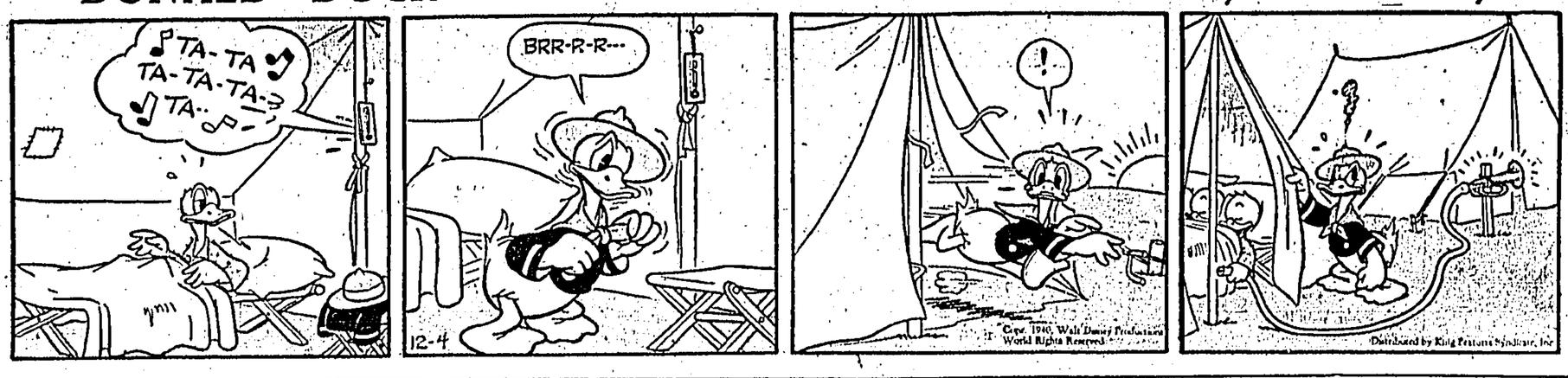
Thursday, Jan. 23
Sandakan, Madang, Salamaua, Rabaul and Tulagi .....12.30 p.m.

*Superscribed Correspondence Only.

Library, Supreme Court

DONALD DUCK

By Walt Disney



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MAGAZINE PAGE

British Air Strength:

Why Men and Machines Are Superior

Day by day, the air war over Britain provides proof that British aeroplanes are superior in design and construction to those of Germany.

Indeed, the proof is so conclusive as to make Britain's pre-war claims appear far too modest. In numbers only has the enemy now a measure of superiority, and this will be soon offset by the gigantic effort being made in Britain and in the Empire generally.

To appreciate the achievement of the British aircraft industry, it is well to note that, because of Britain's gesture of disarmament, the Air Force ranked fifth among those of the nations in 1932. The British Government hesitated long in the hope that an arms race could be avoided. Eventually, the need of expanding the R.A.F. could not be denied, and in May 1935 a programme was announced for completion by March 1937.

Developments in Germany revealed that this step was not enough, and a second and larger scheme was announced for completion by March 1939.

☆ ☆ ☆

Just before the war, the rate of production was four times that of the preceding year. Present day figures cannot be revealed, of course, but it may with justification be believed that Britain is equalling Germany's output, at least, and her losses have been much smaller.

It was fortunate, indeed, that quality in British airmen and material served to make up leeway in quantity. It is this quality which has decided many an issue when weight of numbers appeared to be overwhelming against British airmen.

When the tremendous acceleration of aircraft building was decided on, the response of aircraft industry was spontaneous and full blood. For example, the famous Rolls Royce company almost completely discarded its motor car activities, with the exception of a skeleton staff to ensure post-war efficiency in the motor trade, the entire resources of Rolls Royce were concentrated on production of engines.

So it was throughout the industry, and a truly staggering revelation will be made when the actual facts and figures of this change-over are eventually published.

With the reorganisation of the plants, research and development continued, and were increased, to enhance the superiority of British machines generally.

☆ ☆ ☆

A notable step—it may be disclosed now—was the Rotol constant speed airscrew designed for the single engined fighters. The Spitfire, already the fastest aircraft in service in any air force, was made still faster by the introduction of this airscrew, and the Hurricane's performance was correspondingly improved. The Spitfire became capable of more than 400 m.p.h., and to add to the striking power of this formidable pair came the Defiant with its power-operated gun turret amidships.

Among Britain's bombers, the Wellington is one of the most successful heavy types ever built, this twin-engined midwing monoplane has a range with a full bomb load of 3,200 miles, which means that it could fly non-stop from London to New York and still have a substantial mileage in reserve.

Next on the bomber list come the Hampden and the Whitley, both twin-engined midwing types. The range of each is about 2,000 miles, which would enable them to fly non-stop with a full load, from Sydney to Perth.

The Hanipden has a top speed to that of the Wellington. The Whitley's maximum is about 20 m.p.h. less. Both carrying big bomb loads and heavy defensive armament. Like the Wellington, the Whitley is equipped with power-operated gun turrets in nose and tail. These turrets have been used by the R.A.F. for some time, but it is interesting to note that the Germans discovered only just recently, the principles on which they work.

The Blenheim is the best known of Britain's multi-purpose "jobs". It has a top speed of 295 m.p.h. and a service ceiling of about 30,000 feet.

☆ ☆ ☆

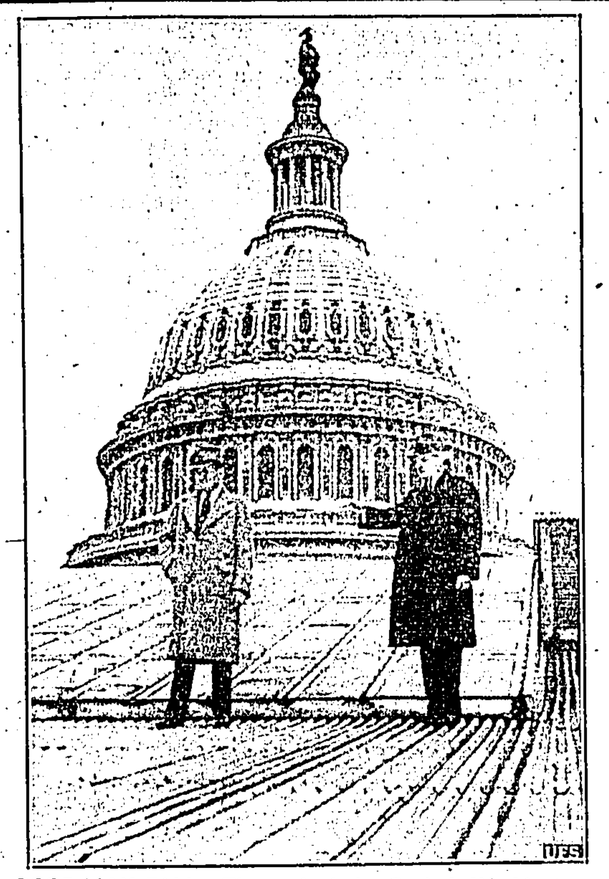
The Beaufort is the most versatile twin-engined aircraft in the world. It is used for bombing, torpedo bombing, reconnaissance and general purpose duties. Much of its performance is still "hush hush", but its top speed is considerably greater than the Blenheim's 295 m.p.h.

There are other types, too all of which incorporate the principles of British thoroughness and "honesty" in construction. Development is continuous, for Britain does not stand still, content with what she has. She realises that research must go on unendingly, and that improvement is a constant first essential of war . . . .

☆ ☆ ☆

So it is that the British pilot has the best of material to handle, and without a doubt his training is the best in the world. The most advanced and fastest training plane ever built is the Miles Master, which has been in full production for the R.A.F. for some time.

It is claimed that the design of no type of plane has advanced more quickly in the last ten years than that of this trainer, which may well be one of the main reasons for the superiority British pilots are demonstrating day after day.



ROOF MAY FALL—The roof of the Capitol, Washington, is in danger of collapsing, and architects are seen above examining the structure for projected repair work.

GERMAN AIRMAN IN SAME WARD AS VICTIMS

FEELING was aroused in a midland town because a German airman was placed in the same hospital as a number of civilians who were injured when he jettisoned his bombs after his plane was hit.

The airman was put in the same ward as some of his victims.

Relatives of the injured civilians suggest that more tact might have been shown by placing the airman in another hospital.

The airman, also, does not feel too comfortable.

Looked Scared

When he reached the hospital he asked if his bombs had caused any harm. When told that some of his victims were in the same ward as himself he looked scared.

In English, he said he was sorry for the injuries he had caused, and said he believed his bombs had fallen in a field.

It was likely that a petition will be made for the removal of the German to another hospital.

HITLER NEEDS REAL RUBBER

Rubber is a military necessity to-day. Hitler's armies do little marching; they roll along at 20, even 40 miles an hour on rubber-tyred motor-cycles, in rubber-tyred motor trucks, or fly as parachutists in aeroplanes with rubber-tyred undercarriages. A blitzkrieg without rubber is unthinkable.

Rubber does not grow many degrees above or below the Equator. So it happens that not only Germany and Italy, but also economically self-contained countries like the United States and Soviet Russia must import huge quantities from the rubber-producing lands—mostly in the Far East. The monopoly of rubber production by British and Dutch interests has certainly complicated military and industrial problems in those countries lacking this essential commodity.

For more than a generation there has been a quest for synthetic rubber. In the first instance it was necessary to pull apart chemically the natural product to find out how it was put together. It was found that raw rubber, after being heated in a retort, dripped a liquid which was named "Isoprene." Chemically analysed, isoprene turned out to be a hydrocarbon—meaning a combination of carbon and hydrogen.

Arising from these experiments with isoprene another hydrocarbon was discovered, butadiene. If this butadiene were allowed to stand long enough, or if it were heated in the presence of sodium, it would turn into a gummy mass. It was not rubber, but it had many of the properties of rubber.

The possibilities of butadiene changed the whole trend of research. Rubber itself was examined critically. It was found that rubber was unnecessarily versatile in its properties. Chemists decided that something better than natural rubber was wanted.

By Arthur Reynolds

In Germany a rubber substitute has been evolved which is known as "Buna." It is made from butadiene by a rapid process of polymerisation. At the outbreak of war about one-third of Germany's rubber requirements were met by using Buna. Undoubtedly its use must be considerably greater now, and captured German aeroplanes show its extended use. Buna is not only a substitute but as far as results are concerned, a very effective substitute.

Cost is still a barrier in the manufacture of synthetic rubber which averages not less than double the price of natural rubber. In certain directions, however, manufacturers prefer the higher-priced synthetic rubber, more satisfactory because of its resistance to heat, acids, oil and some strong chemicals.

Let there be no illusion, however, about the production of artificial rubber in Germany. Her requirements are tremendous — probably about 250,000 tons a year. Plants to meet these requirements would have to be on a vast scale, equipped with special machinery and large bodies of skilled workers employed. It is considered that a plant capable of producing 250,000 tons of synthetic rubber (Buna) annually would cost about £2,000,000. Further large sums would be involved to cover the increased cost of Buna over natural rubber.

There is little chance that natural rubber will disappear from the market. Not even the most hopeful chemist visualises this. The big rubber companies have been bringing their production costs down so that a market price of 4d. a pound is still profitable. Synthetic substitutes must compete on a utility basis, which means that they must do what natural rubber can never do.

SPARROW KILLS A V.C.

OUT in France four British soldiers were shot dead while trying to cross 400 yards of "no-man's land" to bring reinforcements to one section of the line.

Then Alfred Wilkinson volunteered to go.

By extraordinary skill he got across the country exposed to enemy fire, and delivered his message.

For doing so he was awarded the V.C.

That was in 1917.

A few days ago Wilkinson (now 48 and doing his bit in this war as a special constable) was found dead —gassed—in the laboratory at Bickershaw Colliery, Leigh, Lancashire, where he was a tester.

He had been killed by a sparrow which had lodged in a furnace pipe and caused carbon monoxide to accumulate in the laboratory.

This was revealed at the inquest, when a verdict of death by misadventure was returned.

STOCK-TAKING
SALE

Ladies' Fur Collar Coats .....from $10.00 each
Ladies' Tweed Suits $10.00
Ladies' Corsets .....from $4.00 each
Woollen dress Materials 36" wide ....$2.95 yd.
Beautiful French Lame .....$5.00 yd.
Ladies' silk stockings .....from $2.50 pr.
Imitation Jewellery at half price.
Children's silk & wool vests .....$1.50 each
Infants' wrapper vests, pure wool ....$1.50 each
Infants' Matinee Coats .....from $2.50 each
Boys' Jumper Suit (pure wool) from $4.00 each
3 piece woollen Breechette Suits from $6.00 each
Monster Gardinia Talcum Powder ....70 cts. tin
Ladies handbags less than half price.

Many other bargains will be displayed on the Ground floor.

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.

N.Y.K. LINE

SAN FRANCISCO & LOS ANGELES via Honolulu
Kamakura Maru ..... Tuesday, 14th Jan.
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• Akagi Maru (starts from (Kobe) . Wednesday, 15th Jan.
NEW YORK via Japan & Panama
• Nozima Maru ..... Friday, 24th Jan.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila.
Suwa Maru ..... Wednesday, 29th Jan.
HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS
• Tottori Maru ..... Sunday, 19th Jan.
(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo.
Haruna Maru ..... Tuesday 28th Jan.
• Okitu Maru ..... Friday, 16th Feb.
RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore.
• Genoa Maru ..... Tuesday, 14th Jan
• Toba Maru ..... Tuesday, 28th Jan.
KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
Kamakura Maru ..... Tuesday, 14th Jan.
Kamo Maru ..... Wednesday, 22nd Jan.
Yawata Maru ..... Tuesday, 28th Jan.
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BD 5595 TUXEDO JUNCTION, Fox trot.
DANNY BOY (Londonderry Air) Fox trot.
BD 5596 TOO ROMANTIC, Fox trot (V.R.).
SWEET POTATO PIPER, Fox trot "ROAD TO SINGAPORE".

JOE LOSS AND HIS ORCHESTRA
BD 5588 LET THE CURTAIN COME DOWN, Fox trot.
YOU MADE ME CARE, Waltz.
BD 5589 THE WOODPECKER SONG, Quickstep.
IF I SHOULD FALL IN LOVE AGAIN, Waltz.
BD 5590 WHEN JUNE COMES, Fox trot.
RAINBOW VALLEY, Slow Fox trot.
BD 5591 THIS CAN'T BE LOVE, Quickstep ("UP AND DOING").
WHEN NIGHT IS THROUGH, Fox trot.

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For A Few Hours

on Saturday morning, 18th January, ladies will offer flags for sale in aid of the Fund to present more bombers to Britain.

Fifteen thousand flags have been given for this purpose.

If everyone pays one dollar for his or her emblem —

$15,000

will be sent Home.

If everyone gives five dollars —

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will be sent Home.

Will you please decide NOW to give generously—and help to establish a record for Hongkong?

Organised by the Hongkong War Effort Committee.

STOP...

To make sure your automobile will GO is very important.

BUT . . .

To make sure it will STOP is even more important.

To have dependable brakes . . . to know you will STOP regardless of weather conditions . . . use WHIZ NON-EVAPORATING HYDRAULIC BRAKE FLUID.

A high-quality, permanent fluid that protects and preserves Hydraulic Brakes . . . Contains no water or alcohol.

WHIZ NON-EVAPORATING HYDRAULIC BRAKE FLUID . . . the sure way to know that you'll . . .

STOP.

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BIRTH

BLISS: At the Kowloon Hospital, on 13th January, 1941, to Phyllis, wife of Mr. A. S. Bliss, a son.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

Tuesday, January 14, 1941.
Wyndham St., Hongkong
Telephone: 26615

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LULL IN FREE CHINA

AFTER three and a half years of war the Chungking Government can survey its position with some satisfaction, not unmingled with bright hopes for the future. With the goodwill of most of the world on her side and with considerable assets and potential assets forthcoming from the democracies and Russia, Free China has tremendous resources to add to the treasure she has found in the pacific west.

The terrific bombardments of Japanese aviators have failed to dislodge the Government from what seems to be its last stronghold; the morale of the civilian population has withstood the harrowing experiences of rape and pillage, wholesale slaughter and fifth columnist subterfuge; the army is strong and well trained; the air force is being reborn, and the industrial life of the country is settling down into coordinated paths from which will emerge a regulated economy to offset the unsettled turmoil of the vast "no man's land."

The absence of large scale warfare of recent months has encouraged a slackening off in the martial intensity that prevailed throughout the first three years. Japan has other fields to explore and both sides have felt the impact of the European conflict.

The danger to China is that she may be lulled into a false complacency; hoping that hostilities may tail off into a mere standing on guard, she may grow weary of war preparation—as well she might after the heroic struggle she has already put up.

Battles are not won by retreating, however. A great Chinese offensive is the last thing that the Japanese would care to face during the next few months and such an event might well force them to reasonable peace terms to free their hands elsewhere. China must look after her own fate and if she could persuade the Japanese troops to evacuate the mainland she would have a solid basis for future prosperity which neither Britain nor America would grudge her. By voluntarily accepting the stalemate which has now been reached, Chungking also risks moral disintegration by removing the object round which the regeneration of China is focussed. She must fight or make peace. The Chinese cannot be kept for ever in a state of pent-up patriotism unless the effort to win the war is sustained.

There is also the question of the vast funds made available to Chungking by the Democracies. China should learn how and by whom the money is being spent. The recent outbreak of rice hoarding, the artificial prices of luxuries in the Free capital, the life of ease which many wealthy Chinese are living in Hongkong, are all retarding influences on the steady upward gradient which Chiang Kai-shek has pursued. So far the signs are not too serious; they can be checked. But something is needed to divert the Chinese away from the dangerous suggestion that the war is as good as won because China is now morally aligned with the Democracies and because Japan is allowing her attention to wander.

Now indeed is the time for China to rally her people for a great drive and one which may, happily, prove the last effort necessary to achieve her aim—to rule her own people and country under one flag.

Among the Germans — in — Occupied Brussels

This article comes from a Correspondent who, after five years' residence in France, left Paris in June, tramped to Bordeaux, then returned to the occupied capital for a short stay, and at last, finding his way to Brussels, remained there during August and early September.

The first leaves are falling as I sit in the park opposite the Royal Castle in Brussels, before my departure in the second week of September. Children are playing round the big pond, which brings up memories of the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris. Toy boats sail across the dark waters and young voices fill the air as the children laugh and shout. From the main entrance on the other side of the park comes the faint sound of trams and motor cars. You cannot hear the tramp of German army boots here, but you know it is there on the pavements.

Barbed wire shuts off the centre of the park, and German sentries guard the wireless station which has been put up there next the children's playground among green lawns and flower beds.

On one side of the park flies the swastika flag over the Royal Palace; on the other side, the street as well as the courtyards, halls, rooms, and corridors of the former Parliament and Government buildings swarms with German soldiers, for all these premises have been taken over by the invaders.

The uniforms are manifold in colour and design, dark green, light green, dark grey, light grey, many shades of browns and blues, mixtures of black and brown, black and white, and other combinations. All are adorned with some kind of weapon, a rifle or revolver or a rather ridiculous looking sort of dagger dangling at the hip. For these the Belgians have their own facetious pet name.

Some nine-tenths of the German military here walk about in high black boots, which are worn even by the railway officials.

Tramp, Tramp, Tramp

Brussels is full of these boots. You cannot forget them. If you close your eyes the sound of their tramp haunts you, be it by day or at any hour of the night. And as accompaniments to the perpetual tramp, tramp, tramp, you hear the sharp shouts and commands of the men who wear them, the noise of their innumerable motors, carts, tanks, trucks, motor-cycles, buses, and overhead the roar of aeroplane engines. There is no escape, for if you go into a restaurant or shop, especially a food shop, any hotel or bar, boulevard or square, the scene is everywhere dominated by men and women in German uniforms.

Their names are perplexingly numerous. Besides the *Deutsche Wehrmachtangehörige* (the military proper) there are members of the *Arbeitsdienst, Technische Nothilfe, Arbeitsorganisation Todt, Streifendienst, Nationalsozialistische Volkswohlfahrt, Hitlerjugend*, various kinds of Civil servants now in military uniform, bank clerks, transport officials, *Kraft durch Freude* men and women, and the Gestapo.

But the striking thing about these hundreds and thousands of soldiers and semi-soldiers, ranging from youths to grey-headed men, girls, nurses, and what not, is that they do not live up to the creed imposed on the superracial citizens of glorious and victorious Great Germany or maintain the dignity which their citizenship enjoins. They are certainly in the main tired, war-weary, and demoralised to a high degree.

This statement is not based on wishful thinking but on actual observation and first-hand experience. Intimate and unconstrained contact with German soldiers, officials, and women in Belgium to-day, makes the propaganda to which we have been subjected, the official bulletins and newspapers we have read both in German and in French, seem unreal. Rarely, indeed scarcely ever, can you hear among the many German uniforms in Belgium any of the the high-flown phrases about victory, greatness, and invincibility. On the contrary, the Germans in Belgium betray a surprising lack of faith in the propaganda of their Government.

Only yesterday I heard a German officer say quietly that he thought the Germans would find it impossible to invade and defeat England. "Our people do not know the English," he explained, "but I have spent many years among them in their country."

Sick and Tired

German soldiers in Belgium are frequently heard to declare they detest this war, that they are sick and tired of it and want to go home. At first one can scarcely believe one's ears and wonders whether it is not some sort of trap or astute new form of propaganda, but that idea soon passes and the conviction is formed that the "victorious" German soldiers are seriously demoralized. At the slightest inducement, and often without, they will produce photographs of their wives, children, dogs, or other pets, and talk at length about the bombing of their home towns, the permanent dangers in which their families live while they themselves are or seem to be in relative security marking time. Encourage these sentimental bullies to talk about letters from home and you soon feel you have them on the verge of tears.

So far as can be judged, most of the soldiers now in Brussels have been some two years in arms. If asked about the end of the war they generally shrug their shoulders and show no pleasure in the prospect of the future. They certainly criticize the occupation of Denmark and Norway, and they wonder what they are doing in Belgium, "which will never become German, anyway."

They do not want to fight, they can easily be induced to profess that they personally have no great sympathy for the Nazi Government, they obviously have no firm faith in ultimate victory, and the view can often be heard that, "if we do not succeed with our invasion of England in the course of September—and we shall probably not succeed, though we still hope, of course—we shall never win this war." Without any inducement they now occasionally add, "And that means revolution."

We know German and Germans sufficiently to remember some of their re-actions, how cruelty and sentimentality are typical features of their character. A man who does not hesitate to machine-gun women and children will sit down and cry, yes, actually shed tears, at the though of his pet canary being killed by a cat. They are decidedly in sentimental mood to-day. For they are not used to suffering directly as a people during war. The bombing of Berlin and Hamburg is making them tearful. Yet I am convinced it is not only this which has turned their stomach against this war: they are just sick of it for no particular reason and most of them are not Nazis at heart.

In The Grip Of Terror

True as this may be of the Germans in Brussels, it would be too much to conclude that their wariness, disgust, or general disapproval are enough to bring them to open revolt. It may seem madness, it surely is some form of madness, but these people are in the grip of terror, terrified to death, and will never find strength and will power of themselves to oppose their Nazi leaders.

The Belgians, who clearly realize the obvious demoralization of the German troops in their country, are equally convinced of their powerlessness to take any sort of revolutionary initiative.

A Belgian workman put the case in a nutshell the other day when he said, "They tell us they detest the war and want to go home, but they are here all the same. That is all that really counts." He added, with the air of a conspirator, "But you wait and see. In 1918 we let them all go home. This time not one of them who lingers shall leave the country: there is room for all of them in the canal."

The attitude of the Belgians towards the invader is clear, and the Flemish people also appear not so delighted as the Nazi Government would have the world believe. It seems now that, faced with the Germans, they are all really Belgians and their mutual antagonisms fade at the prospect of having the country carved into bits. The people of Belgium feel now that the have been defeated by treachery. They have no one clear idea as to who has brought them to their present plight, but all in Belgium know to-day that it is not the English who have betrayed them, though the Germans have sought to propagate this conception.

It is touching and curious to observe how they contrive to spread the news of the B.B.C. They listen where and when they can, in spite of the heavy penalty prescribed by the Germans. Servants, waiters, tram conductors, indeed everybody, does his best to pass choice items along as fast as possible, and all listen with delight for the sound of British aeroplanes which come after dusk to bomb the Germans in their midst.

"Britannique" Wins

In spite of the thorough German militarization, or perhaps because of it, the Belgians show their real sentiments whenever they have an opportunity. On September 1 there were horse races near Brussels, and among the horses was one called Britannique. Nobody seemed to know anything about this horse, but it seemed that everybody was backing it to win. Well, as Chesterton says, the curious thing about miracles is that they sometimes happen. And a miracle happened that day; the dark horse Britannique came in first, and the crowd lost all restraint, laughing, roaring, shouting "Britannique," clapping one another on the back, and acting as if they had not merely won money but had received a welcome sign from Heaven.

The Germans in Belgium are over-organized and therefore inefficient, as many of the numerous departments often work against one another, wittingly or unwittingly, and cancel out. The highest authorities are sometimes quite ignorant of important things done within their province.

Belgian Whispers

Living in Belgium you feel there is something in the German machine that does not work as smoothly as it should. There appear to be two distinct features, the military and the economic, which are often out of gear. When economic plans break down the military take charge. In spite of the demoralized temper of the troops, the military machine still works through inertia with tolerable efficiency, and it would be wrong to regard the soldiers as on the road to an early revolution.

It is often said, and with apparent truth, that nine-tenths of all Germans are out of sympathy with their Nazi masters, but if this is really so they are the passive nine-tenths, who will not of themselves rise in active revolt against the active one-tenth. But there is another possibility, which some competent observers incline to regard even as a probability.

The stunned spirit of the Belgians has largely recovered, and the word "revolution" is often whispered. It was heard now and then as far back as August, but only in a vague and dreamy way. But the economic spoliation of the country which has not yet reduced the people to the apathy following long and gradual starvation has aroused intense resentment.

For the moment only the spirit of revolt is there, ready to take shape if practical opportunity should arise. At the beginning of September the good-old-*La Libre Belgique* appeared again on the scene. It is believed that, when the moment is ripe and active revolt becomes a fact in France or any other occupied country, it will rapidly spread to all certainly to Belgium.

The movement, if movement it may be called, appears for the present at least to have little or no taint of Bolshevism, for Communists and Nazis are lumped together in the mind of most citizens of Belgium and looked upon as traitors. The only tangible thing in the goal towards which minds tend is the liberation of Belgium from foreign domination.

The problem of King Leopold is not often raised. It is difficult at present to say definitely how the King stands with his people in Belgium. Something akin to incipient propaganda for *Leopold, le Roi Humain* is afoot and many people wear a tiny gift crown in their buttonhole as a symbol of adhesion to his cause. The King appears to be in some sort of conflict with the Germans, though no trustworthy information is available on the nature of their disagreement. He is more or less a prisoner and while this fact and the belief that he is causing the Germans difficulties tend to improve his position, he is still far from enjoying the affection of the whole of the Belgian people.

Women Smokers More Careless

WATERBURY, Conn. (UP).—Women shoppers who smoke, and men, create fire hazards in department stores, according to the city fire board.

The board voted to ask for an ordinance forbidding smoking in department stores. Members said men rarely smoke while shopping but women do, and drop ashes near inflammable materials.

EXHAUSTED BY FEVER?

Then read this:—

You are not out of danger when fever has subsided. The weakness it leaves behind exposes you to relapse or fresh infection. You must rebuild your worn-out body immediately and quickly.

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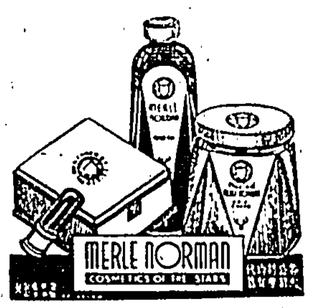

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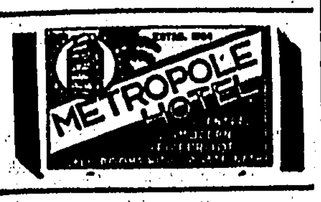

WAR DRUMS BEAT AS LION OF JUDAH SUMMON ABYSSINIANS

(By "Reuter's" Correspondent)

KHARTOUM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The nightly brooding of the Ethiopian sky resounds to the roll of drums, spelling out a message for which the Ethiopians have been waiting five years—that the Emperor is near at hand and that the moment of deliverance is not far off.

In a special interview granted me by the Lion of Judah, I learned that the dark, bearded, distinguished Emperor has already made contact with the Ethiopian chiefs from the interior.

The last time I saw the Emperor he was disembarking at Haifa five years ago from a British destroyer after his flight from Abyssinia.

Then he was careworn and dejected; to-day, he sat on a purple silk-covered wooden throne in his little square palm-fringed palace beside the placid waters of the Blue Nile.

Alert and bright-eyed, he is another being. In a voice vibrant with confidence, he told me of his plans—that the day was not far distant when he would cross the border and lead the Ethiopian patriot army against the enemy.

There was a glint of assurance in his eyes as he exlaimed, "I will tear down the figure of the wolf erected by the Italians in Addis Ababa Square and in its place will reinstate the white marble statute of the Lion of Judah, the original of which they took to Rome."

Revolt Making Headway

Haile Selassi was well-pleased with the progress of his army's training and added, "The revolt is making great headway, thanks to the wholehearted support of the British Government."

"It is the writing on the wall. The days of my former Italian ally who betrayed my country, are numbered. He built fine roads but he killed and enslaved thousands of my people; he failed to break their spirit and I look forward to their liberation and the institution of a just, constitutional government."

The Emperor told me that just as Marshal Badoglio had done, he would personally lead his victorious troops to Addis Ababa, mounted on a white horse.

I asked him if it was true that the Royal Crown of the House of Judah was now in Rome. He said that the crown which Badoglio took to Rome was stolen by the Italians from the Ethiopian Church and was not the Emperor's Crown.

War Drums Beat

He went on to explain about the royal war drums which nightly are beating on the hilltops of Gojjam and along the frontier. "There are 44 of them. Some are big, others are small, hollowed out from tree trunks and covered with cowhide. My chieftains are allowed a maximum of 12 drums each, but mine sound a particular signal and when the peculiar note of those drums is heard my people know that I am nearby.

"I know that they are hearing and understanding the message of my drums because hundreds of former soldiers who were forced to fight with the Italians are deserting and rallying to the standard raised at Gojjam by my faithful commanders."

The Emperor then held a clandestine meeting with a number of Ethiopian chiefs from the interior. At the risk of their lives, they made their way to the meeting on the frontier and upon ascertaining that their Emperor was really there they one and all re-pledged their fealty.

The audience terminated on a personal and still confident note. "I hope you will accompany me when I return to my country," said the Emperor as I left the palace.

BRITISH RESOURCES DEBATE

Country Still Dissatisfied

(BY "REUTER'S" LOBBY CORRESPONDENT)

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—It is anticipated that the well-known expert, Sir William Beveridge, will be appointed to take full-time direction of the country's manpower problem.

Discussion on new proposals to accelerate the war effort is intensifying in political circles, politicians having now had a week to consider them and even now it cannot be said that there is general approval, criticism being focussed on the questions of manpower and production.

The next Parliamentary debate, originally intended to be a secret session, is on manpower and production, and the House of Commons will have an opportunity of expressing its views on the changes made. Many feel that the whole question of manpower and production needs more effective dealing and more action.

Lonely Life Of Puppet Wang Told

The lonely, fear-filled life of the Japanese puppet leader in China, Wang Ching-wei, was described by the Consul-General for China, Dr Pao, in an address to the China Society in Sydney.

"Loyal and useful Chinese hate Wang Ching-wei for his treason to his country," said Dr Pao. "Though about 20 per cent. of China's soil is under Japanese occupation, Japan has not actually been able to hold these places. Her penetration extends to no more than 12 per cent. of that 20 per cent.

"Wang Ching-wei may have a few followers hanging round, but actually he cannot trust any one of any rank. He lives like a prisoner, and even his meal has to be cooked and served by his wife. Inside his prison-like house in Nanking, Wang is surrounded by a group of Japanese 'advisers,' and outside his master, Japan, provides him with bodyguards.'

"Treaty Train"

'The feeling of the Chinese people in regard to the so-called 'Wang-Japan treaty' is indicated by the strike of Shanghai policemen and the blowing up of the 'treaty train' the other day. If Wang hopes to secure some gain by selling himself as a slave to Japan, he is merely 'consulting with a tiger for its skin.'

"In the present world, peace is indivisible. Unless peace with justice is secured throughout the world, and unless every single Japanese soldier is driven off China's soil, my country and my people will continue to fight. We need material and the moral support of friendly peoples, but China's power of resistance is the determination of her people to fight. The success or failure of the determination of my country and my people will determine the fate of the Pacific."

Peace Terms Allegations Enquiry

JOURNALIST TO BE QUESTIONED

NEW YORK, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Verne Marshall, Chairman of the "No Foreign War Committee," announced to-day that he had been served with a subpoena to appear before the Grand Jury of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and added that he did not know the reason.

Mr Marshall, who is a newspaper editor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, alleged a fortnight ago that President Roosevelt had a chance a year ago to halt the European war and still had the chance to serve as peacemaker if he grasped it.

He told a sensational story of German official peace terms being flown to the United States in September, 1939, by William Rhodes Davis, the New York oil operator. He further alleged that these terms were suppressed by the State Department although they involved "just and honourable" terms for a peace conference to be held at the White House with President Roosevelt as mediator.

Nazi Air Blitz In Mediterranean

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Rumours of a coming Nazi air blitz in the Mediterranean are being spread from Berlin.

The Berlin correspondent of the "Dagens Nyheter" reports to-day that the German military command is obviously alive to the ever-increasing importance to the operations in the Mediterranean and lively activity by the German air force may be expected in that area in the next few weeks.

Standard Press For Norway

The Norwegian Government is trying to swing public opinion by standardising Press and broadcast reports. Oslo editors are compelled to attend the propaganda ministry's daily conferences. The number of provincial papers has been reduced to a minimum.

Norway's Nazi clerical, M. Jerdle, appeals to Norway's churches to accept and adapt themselves to the New Order. He declares that the National Council has undertaken not to interfere with religious observances as long as the Church abstains from politics.

Norwegians are incensed at the hypocrisy of permitting M. Jerdle to practice politics and appealing to other clergy to refrain from doing so.

Obstacle To French Thai Negotiations

—Bangkok Dignity

SINGAPORE, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The withdrawal of the French Minister to Thai last May to take up the appointment of Minister to Venezuela was given to "Reuter" by the Thai Consul here as the reason why Thailand is not in a position to negotiate with the French.

The Consul said that Admiral Decoux, the Governor-General of Indo-China, had expressed his willingness to undertake such negotiations but the Thai Government could not recognise the appointment of the Indo-Government official who replaced M. Lepisseer.

Indo-China was not a sovereign Power with which the Thai Government could negotiate.

A way might be opened for negotiations if M. Lepisseer resumed his duties as French Minister.

Nazi Kultur In France

Libraries Raided

Systematic attempts are being made by the German authorities in Paris to stamp out French culture, according to visitors now in the United States from Switzerland and quoted by Edgar Mowrer, Washington correspondent of the "Chicago Daily News."

Three Germans, Kruess, director of the Berlin State Library, Becker and Fuchs, also librarians, he says, constitute a commission in Paris under whose orders all books felt to be contrary to the Nazi spirit are removed from public and private libraries and from bookstalls. At the same time, booksellers have been forced to display German propaganda works.

Catholic documents have also been seized, and according to Mowrer's informant the "Germans tried with physical violence to wrest Vatican correspondence from the hands of Cardinal Lienart, Archbishop of Lille."

Historic Room Undamaged

THE room where Queen Victoria was born, and the bedroom where she was aroused from sleep and told that she was Queen of Britain, escaped damage when Kensington Palace was hit in a recent night raid.

A shower of incendiary bombs was dropped, and a fierce blaze, fanned by a strong wind, destroyed the roofs and top stories of buildings around the clock court quadrangle.

The State apartments by Wren did not entirely escape. Queen Mary's privy chamber; King William's bedroom, and Queen Mary's bedroom were extensively damaged.

Turks & Allies

ANKARA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Major-General Cornwall and Air Vice-Marshal Elmhurst, of the British Middle East Command, have arrived here for conversations with the Turkish General Staff.

Irish In N. America

OTTAWA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—"Millions of people of Irish descent in North America would acclaim every act of co-operation on the part of Eire in the war against the Axis," states a cablegram sent to-day from Irish Canadians in Canada to the Eirean Government.

The cable was signed by Dr R. Manion, former leader of the National Conservative Party, on behalf of a group of prominent Irish Canadians in various parts of the Dominion.

SWAN OR GOOSE

Charged with stealing a swan, the property of the Lord Chamberlain, from Box's sake, Enfield, Leslie Francis Charles, 33, window-cleaner, of Kings Road, Wood Green, was remanded at Enfield for a week for a medical report. When arrested he was alleged to have said, "It's not a swan but a goose, and I am going to take it home and cook it."

FRENCH WRECK CARS

OCCUPIED France is fighting its German taskmasters with the same weapon which caused the downfall of the French nation—sabotage and fifth column work.

The car park in the Paris suburb of Le Vesinet, which has been filled with German Army cars and armoured vehicles, was reported in Vichy recently to have been sabotaged.

Passive resistance to the German officials in the occupied zone is increasing and the Germans have tightened control of the frontier line to prevent secret crossing of people over the border.

It is also reported that Germans have issued a warning that anyone caught sending food from occupied to unoccupied France will be severely punished.

Reports reaching New York say that sabotage has been rife in French large industrial and munitions factories now under Nazi control. Machinery is being constantly tampered with products ruined.

Overtime for Gestapo

The engines of Nazi officials' cars are put out of action, and the tyres slashed. Whole wardrobes of clothes have vanished mysteriously from the hotel suites of officials.

Nazi Army Officers have been found injured and beaten up in Paris Streets.

Himmler's Gestapo are working overtime to discover the agents responsible, but have so far failed miserably.

Mystery Of Yacht 'Wing On'

The mystery of what happened to the small sailing yacht Wing On, long missing in a South Seas cruise, was solved after discovery of its wreckage on remote Visoqo Reef, near Vanua-Levu island.

Abroad were the bodies of a man and woman who apparently had starved to death, and one survivor, believed to be Mrs Fern Thompson, of Salt Lake City. Another man was believed to have been washed away in the sea.

Summer Trip

The Wing On, owned by Dalton Condley, 26, left Oakland, Cal., last summer for Hawaii, stopping at San Pedro en route to pick up Robert Thompson and his wife.

A year ago Condley and his 20-year-old wife, an expectant mother, started for Hawaii, but after three days her condition necessitated her removal to a Coast Guard cutter. The baby, a boy, was born shortly afterward and was reported now to be with Condley's mother, Mrs A. M. Condley, in California.

BULLDOG FREED

A bull terrier was rescued from a demolished house in London after being trapped for two days. It was in the cellar and rescue workers did not know that it was there until they uncovered some of the debris. The dog was exhausted but unhurt.

NEW BOMBER TYPES CROSS ATLANTIC

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The recent extension of the R.A.F. offensive to regular daylight as well as night bombardments lends additional interest to the news that four different kinds of United States bombers for the R.A.F. are being flown across the Atlantic.

A large number of certain types have arrived and a continuous stream will be maintained in future.

The four types are the Lockheed Hudson long-range reconnaissance bomber for the Coastal Command; the Boeing B17 four-engine bomber, popularly called the "flying fortress"; the Consolidated two-engine flying-boat; and the Lockheed Vega Ventura bomber.

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"R. Abbit's" Cricket Comments

EARLY AND LATE DECLARATIONS

K.C.C. Juniors Hold On Too Long: L.T. Ride Saves University

THERE WERE two rather curious games on Saturday last and they illustrated two very different views on cricket. The I.R.C. made a very sporting declaration against the University first eleven to enable them to have a chance of winning. The fact that they lost does not to my mind alter the fact that they did the right thing.

Batsmen In Scoring Mood

Against the University second,—not a dangerous batting side though they can keep their wickets up—the K.C.C. second eleven held on until ten past four when they had 211 on the board. It is true that it enabled two men to complete their centuries. But it probably cost the side a win.

Hulse batted very well for the Craigengower side, and I was sorry only to see the last third of his innings. Going in first wicket down he remained undefeated at the end of the innings scoring fifty-eight.

As the next highest batting score was nine, Craigengower would have made an even worse showing but for the fact that there were 45 extras!

It is not a big ground and if the wicket-keeper misses the ball it is at the boundary at once, but this is far below Archie Zimmern's true form.

The strong K.C.C. batting made little of the task of getting 126 runs and Anderson (41) D. Hung (23) and E. F. Fincher (47) got most of them. I am glad to see Ernie Fincher getting runs again as he has had a poor season.

Sporting Declaration

I WAS very interested to see that Ride has decided to play for the Varsity in the league. It will stiffen their batting tremendously. They are already a very much improved side and should do quite well.

The Indians got 154 for 5 declared and I am told the Varsity had an hour and three quarters to get the runs and did so. All honour to both sides.

Ride's 66 not out was the decisive score, but Fenton got 24, and the captain, N. C. Sen Gupta, was not out 16, hitting off the runs with Ride.

Minu got 4 for 82 and I rather think the matting does not suit him. He and A. H. Madar bowled all but three of the 29 overs sent down and it is clear that the Indians are sadly in need of some good change bowling.

Regrets

I SEE from Mr Mahmood's letter that I owe him an apology. Actually I stated the Army case, and writing my notes on Sunday at my house I could not check up from the University card and forgot to on Monday morning!

According to that and the I.R.C. card, a friendly between the two Clubs had been arranged and I presume this was cancelled for the "domestic" fixture. It appears evident that some misunderstanding occurred, and the Army list does not agree with fixtures down in the University card.

I still adhere to the view, which is general and not particular, that it would be wise for all Club secretaries to check up on their games a couple of days before.

Century At The Club

THERE was a carefree game between the Club "A", which included Major Grose, Richardson and Perry. The latter got 46 and C. W. E. Bishop 55 not out—a good knock to watch. The score was 150 for 8 when Richardson, (who I understand was acting captain), declared.

He had reckoned without some good Royal Scots' batting, for the first four bowlers could do nothing against Douglass and Coombes. Perry going on third change (!) took a wicket for 3 runs in 2 overs,—he bowled Douglass when he had made forty-five and then Dicky took him off and put himself on!

Coombes hit very hard and reached his century while Emmerson shaped well for his 23 not out. The Royal Scots had scored 190 for 3 wickets when stumps were drawn. It is very pleasant seeing a regimental team going.

Second Division

THE Indians' second eleven fared no better than the first as they could only muster 150 runs. At the beginning of the season I should have thought that enough against Craigengower—second,—but—they—have improved, and managed, thanks to the fact that A. Hung, C. W. Lam, A. B. Hamson, U. M. Omar, and U. H. Esmail all made scores of over twenty, to get the runs for 7 wickets. A. M. Omar's five wickets for thirty-three was a useful performance.

Two Centuries

I CANNOT recall any instance of two opening batsmen each making a not out century in Hongkong as Baxter and Tom Madar did on the K.C.C. ground. 211 for no wicket was the result. The University managed to hold out.

It is true they only had two less overs than the K.C.C. batsmen, but they might have had several more!

Fenton did his best with 5 for 35, but Naranjan Singh going in number eight dug in and was not out 27, while Kenneth Lo hung on also and got 15 runs.

Only 8 wickets fell and the match was drawn.

Craigengower On Top

F. J. REMEDIOS rather took tea with the Police bowling and in the later part of his innings, which was all I saw, he played some very nice strokes, and just completed his 50 before the declaration at 165 for 8 wickets.

There were several fours hit early on by the Police batsmen, but a procession started and they were all out for sixty.

Army "A" Win

THE Civil Service second eleven lost a very low scoring game to the Army "A"—or so, I suppose. They could only manage to get 34 runs. Hawkins took 5 for 13 and three batsmen were run out! The Army only got 64 for 9, and I see Colledge took three wickets for no runs.

The China New Year Game

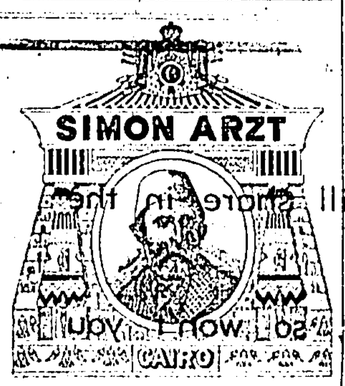
IT is pleasant to hear that the Club have their two-day fixture against the K.C.C. Recently I have noticed that they seem to be meeting the same opponents quite frequently, and I do not think a Club v Army match nearly such a good fixture.

The Club will have to dig out some bowling,—Perry, McLellan and Baker will form a nucleus.

Dicky Richardson had the effrontery to inform me that he was not playing as he was having a golfing holiday at Fanling. What would have happened to him if he had not been giving me a run down to the Valley in his car I don't know. Golf, I trust he will have a pleasant holiday, and that the putts drop as well as the gins, but I shall miss his batting—and so will the Club.

It's about time Alec Tetran got another of his centuries.

SIMON ARZT



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No. 70	P	50s	2.50
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AMBRE		50s	4.—

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Chess

Progress In Kowloon Club Tournaments

ENTRIES for the Senior Colony Chess Championship this year do not include that of K. M. A. Barnett, last year's champion. The names received are those of E. Zimmern (runner-up last year), C. M. Sequeira, D. E. de Carvalho, K. Weiss, L. Karpovich and G. S. Coxhead.

Senior and Junior championships of the Kowloon Chess Club have been divided into two sections for each—"A" and "B"—and the winners of each Section will meet in the best of three games to decide the absolute winners.

The field is fairly open in the "A" Section of the Senior Championship where both Sequiera and Karpovich have scored 5½ points each, although the former has a game in hand. In the "B" Section it looks very much like a victory for Carvalho, who has 6½ points in eight games, Biriukoff, his nearest rival, having scored 5 points in nine games.

V. V. Kolatchoff and J. Grefalda are vieing for honours in the "A" section of the Junior Championship, while S. Benjamin, who has obtained 6 points in seven games, looks a certain winner of "B" section. Tables to date are:

Senior Tournament, Section "A"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
C. M. Sequeira	7	4	3	0	5½
L. Karpovich	8	5	1	2	5½
G. S. Coxhead	7	4	2	1	5
K. Weiss	6	2	0	4	2
H. A. Samuel	7	1	0	6	1
*P. A. Yvanovich	3	0	0	3	0
	38	16	6	16	19

*Has withdrawn from Tournament.

Senior Tournament, Section "B"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
D. E. de Carvalho	8	6	1	1	6½
G. Y. Biriukoff	9	5	0	4	5
K. M. A. Barnett	6	4	0	2	4
H. D. Evans	8	2	2	4	3
M. W. Olsufieff	7	2	1	4	2½
W. Lee	8	2	0	6	2
	46	21	4	21	23

Junior Tournament, Section "A"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
J. Grefalda	9	6	0	3	6
V. V. Kolatchoff	8	5	0	3	5
E. A. Fabel	7	4	0	3	4
A. C. Poupard	7	4	0	3	4
*A. C. Mitchell	8	3	0	5	3
Th. Laufer	9	2	0	7	2
	48	24	0	24	21

*Has withdrawn from Tournament.

Junior Tournament, Section "B"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
S. Benjamin	7	6	0	1	6
J. H. D'Almeida	8	5	1	2	5½
D. Drake	7	4	0	3	4
A. Benjamin	5	4	0	1	4
C. Lee	7	1	0	6	1
J. Walther	8	0	1	7	½
	42	20	2	20	21

Golf

G.M. Park Wins Bomber Fund Competition

The golf play-off at Fanling of the tie between G.M. Park (7), G. Thomerson (20) and T. Megarry (11) in the first competition in aid of the "South China Mroning Post" Bomber Fund, resulted in a win for Park, who returned a card of one up.

ADAMSON CUP

G. W. Reeve returned a card of 76-12=64, at Happy Valley, to qualify for the January round of the Adamson Cup competition.

George Sousa (Craigengower) allowing one to pass on the off. A. Zimmern (Kowloon) keeping wicket. Picture taken during the First Division League match at Happy Valley on Saturday.—*Ming Yuen.*

Britain's Fighters Carry On Even When Off Duty

INTERNATIONAL belligerence generally has resulted in the private variety being stimulated considerably. Between 1914-1918 there were twenty-five title fights in England and the Inter-Allied Tournaments during 1918 and 1919 provided an immense stimulus to the boxing game in London.

The Beckett-Carpentier fights brought the game to its apex in London and if their heavyweights were not of the best at the time they had Ted "Kid" Lewis, one of the best welters ever, Jimmy Wilde, a strong contender for the title of the finest fly-weight the world has ever seen, and Tancy Lee, who beat Wilde as a fly-weight and then won the featherweight title three times, annexing the Lonsdale Belt outright for this great performance.

HOW, then, is this war affecting boxing in England? For the first month or two chaos reigned. In the Provinces the game struggled on in Liverpool and the north-east, but in London only one hall, the Devonshire Sporting Club, kept the game alive.

Then Sydney Hulls, probably the principal promoter in England, began Monday afternoon shows at the Stadium Club.

The boxing fraternity, bewildered by the absence of their greatest stimulant, crept out of their holes and Monday afternoons became get-together day in which the hand shaking and greetings almost made the actual boxing a poor obligato.

THEN, when no aeroplanes came over, they felt that perhaps this war was not going to be the completely devastating thing they imagined, and Mr Hulls put his shows on in the evenings on Mondays.

The next and really first big boxing event was the lightweight championship title bout at Harringay Arena in which Eric Boon successfully defended his crown against the former champion, Dave Crowley.

This finished disappointing, for after seven rounds, Crowley's Achilles tendon on his right leg went and Boon thus retained his championship. Probably he would have done so anyway, but the mercurial Crowley can be accounted just a little unlucky on that occasion.

Women's Yacht Race

The second women's championship series race sailed by the Yacht Club yesterday over 7.5 miles resulted:

True Blue	4.42.00	Miss Wilson	1
Artemis	4.42.14	Mrs J. E. Potter	2
Redshank	4.42.56	Miss Pritchard	3
Gull	4.43.45	Miss Richards	4

Did not finish.—Maureen.

Y.M.C.A. Cricket Team

The following have been selected to represent Y.M.C.A. against University at cricket on January 26 at Pokfulam:

F. E. Lawrence (captain), W. T. Mitchell, H. D. Bruce, H. Brokenshire, C. T. Eager, A. E. Perry, C. Logan, W. F. Gegg, E. Curtis, W. H. Ingleby, F. Willis, Reserve, G. Davidson, Umpire, C. T. Tetran.

Badminton

CHINESE "Y" BEAT RECREIO 6-3 IN "A" DIVISION

The Chinese "Y" defeated Recreio "A" in a first division badminton league match at the Y.M.C.A., last night by six games to three.

Detailed results:

C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y") beat L. A. Carvalho and M. A. Silva 21-13; beat J. J. Remedios and H. Gonsalves 21-15; beat M. A. Oliveira and A. M. Rodrigues 21-13.

P. H. Wong and T. C. Lau (Chinese "Y") beat Carvalho and Silva 21-8; lost to Remedios and Gonsalves 14-21; lost to Oliveira and Rodrigues 17-21.

F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y") beat Carvalho and Silva 21-8; lost to Remedios and Gonsalves 8-21; beat Oliveira and Rodrigues 21-12.

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PROPOSAL TO INVITE RIGGS TO AUSTRALIA VETOED

MELBOURNE (UP).—The council of the Australian Lawn Tennis Association have turned down a request from the Queensland Association for permission to invite the American star, Bobby Riggs, to play matches in Australia on behalf of the Red Cross.

The Australian Council took the position that such an invitation would be unfair to the United States Association which had agreed not to challenge for the Davis Cup during the war.

It was also stated that it was inappropriate and inimical to public policy to invite American players to Australia for any other purpose.

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NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller

Engineer Fails To Go To Sea With His Ship

Summoned for neglecting to proceed to sea in his ship on December 18, A. V. Frain, Second Engineer, was found guilty by Comdr J. Jolly at the Marine Court yesterday, and ordered to forfeit out of his wages a sum equal to two days' pay.

Mr W. M. Brown appeared for complainant, Captain Lionel McRae, master of the ship, and said Frain signed articles as Second Engineer on November 19 for a period of six months. The ship returned from Shanghai on December 15, and orders were handed to the Chief Engineer for the ship to have steam up to proceed to sea at 11 a.m. on December 18. These written orders were handed to Frain by the Chief Engineer.

On December 17, Frain accompanied by Capt McRae, went ashore to the Indo-China Steam Navigation Offices, where there was a question of Frain signing off. It was eventually decided that Frain was to continue on the ship's articles until the end of six months and Frain was informed of this by Mr Lawson, the Marine Superintendent, that day. Frain was later seen having dinner on board the ship that evening, and that was the last time he was seen on board. At about 10.50 a.m. on December 18, Capt McRae boarded the ship, and was told by the Chief Engineer that Frain was not on board. The ship waited until 11.02 a.m. for Frain to appear and sailed with a supplementary engineer on board. Frain's gear was sent ashore in the agent's launch.

Captain's Evidence

Evidence was given by Capt McRae, who said the ship sailed without Frain at 11.02 a.m.

"I do not wish to treat defendant's absence as desertion," he added.

Corroborative evidence was given by Mr R. B. Robertson, Chief Engineer, and Mr J. Lawson.

Defendant said his services were dispensed with by Jardine, Matheson through Mr Lawson on the night of December 17. He went to see Mr Tod, the shipping manager, who said: "Call back at 5 p.m. I shall enquire into this." On returning at 5 p.m. he was told by Mr Lawson to return to the ship. He did so, and before leaving the ship that night, told the Third Engineer to set the watches for 8 a.m. the next morning as instructed by the Chief Engineer.

While leaving for the ship in a motor-boat the next morning, continued Frain, he saw the ship unmooring, and chased after it as far as the boom defences, but missed her. He later suspected that his watch was at fault.

Cross-examined by Mr Brown, Frain said he left for the ship at 10.40 a.m. that morning. He admitted that he had "cut it a little fine."

On being found guilty by Comdr Jolly, Mr Brown said he had been asked to press the case as it was undesirable for an engineer to be late, especially during wartime.

Defendant told the Magistrate that it had never happened to him before, and he was sure it would not happen again. He added that he had been offered a berth on two ships which were at present in Shanghai.

MUSSOLINI TRIES NEW GENERAL

ROME, Jan. 18 (UP).—It was officially announced to-day that General Soddu had resigned as Commander of the Troops in Albania for reasons of health. He was being replaced by General Ugo Cavallero.

"British Wireless" adds that General Soddu is 57 years old and was Under-Secretary of State for War in 1939. He was appointed Commander in Albania as recently as November 11.

Mussolini Lacks Leaders

ROME, Jan. 13 (Reuter Bulletin).—General Cavallero, who succeeds General Soddu, is Italian Chief of Staff and succeeded General Badoglio in that office in December. His appointment means that the highest Italian General Staff officer has taken personal charge of the Albanian campaign and that Mussolini has a shortage of military leaders. A number resigned at the end of last year and some have been captured in North Africa.

Chinese Aid Bomber Fund

In response to the appeal which appeared recently over the signatures of the Chinese members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, the Hon. Mr M. K. Lo has sent donations totalling $2,600 being contributions from Chinese members of the community, to the Bomber Fund.

Following suggestions received that old gold and silverware should be melted down and the proceeds donated to the Bomber Fund, the following firms have consented to act, free of any charge, as receiving and disposal depots: Messrs Lane, Crawford, Ltd., Sennet Freres, and J. Ullmann & Company. Lists of donors and articles contributed will be published in the *South China Morning Posts* and *Hongkong Telegraph* on Mondays.

In this connection, nine medallions have been received from Mr A. E. Manwaring, and nine cups, five medals and two spoons from Mr B. V. Hutchinson.

A total of $1,540,965.19 was reached yesterday by the War Fund inaugurated by the S. C. M. Post, Ltd., with the following donations:

"Toss the Coin"—Yeung	$ 5
Mr C. W. E. Bishop (third (donation)	200
Harbour Office Nickels and Dimes (weekly donation)	2.20
"Bridges"	25
Lhombre Evening (second donation)	15
"Stung"	2
"In memory of the late Mr J. P. A. Davidson"	50
Volunteer	40
Mr L. A. Starling (monthly donation)	50
Mr E. P. Streatfield (monthly donation)	30
Mingsang Shrapnel Box (second donation)	32
Irene	200
A. H. K.	25
Cheero Club (sale of old tins, etc.)	7
Mr Lai Chun (second donation)	3
"Dollar Bet"	1
Bowls Match at K.B.G.C.: Sergeants	40
Bowlers	25
Springer Spaniel Puppy Fund	10
Central Police Station Canteen Cent Box (fifth donation)	20
M. C. S. T. Shrapnel Box (fourth donation)	33.54
Treasury "Shrapnel Box" (week ended 11.1.41)	4.30
Hon. Mr M. K. Lo (second donation)	300
Mr M. W. Lo (second donation)	100
Mr H. G. Leong	100
Mr Chan Hon-chee of Messrs Him Yuen	500
Messrs Lee Cheong-woo	200
Messrs Mow Fung-tai Kee	500
Siu Suk-lim	100
Messrs Mow Tai	200
Mr Tang Hoi	100
Mr M. H. Lo (second donation)	500
"A wet Sunday at Shek O"	45

THE B. W. O. F.

The following is a list of subscriptions received to date for credit of the British War Organisation Fund, Hongkong Branch:

Previously acknowledged, $100 and $623,340.60.

Miss Grace Ezra, $15; J. S. Runnett (monthly), $20; the American Club (Result from raffle held on New Year's Eve), $200; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs Iranee, $1; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs E. C. Ritchie, $1; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs Colledge, $1; Francois d'Ilardivilliers, $500; G. Frost, $10; Mr and Mrs R. L. Wyllie, $25; Capt. I. J. Lowsus (December), $20; D. G. Day (monthly), 15; A. H. Guinness (monthly), $20; Wu Lai Tak, $152.00; A. M. Kennedy (monthly), $30; Mr and Mrs S. H. Dodwell (3rd. donation), $500; China New Guinea Mercantile Co. $50. Total $620,909.46.

Bomber Fund Raffle Sale

The Hongkong War Effort Committee has been fortunate in securing the voluntary services of Mr S. A. Seth in connection with the Monster Raffle now being organised in aid of the Bomber Fund. Mr Seth, who is a chartered secretary well known throughout the Far East generally, will supervise the issuing of tickets and the accounting work. The office previously used by the Hongkong Travel Bureau on the Star Ferry Wharf, Connaught Road, has been placed at the disposal of the Committee by the Hongkong Wharf and Godown Company, and tickets will only be issued to sellers, Clubs, etc., from this centre.

There is a considerable amount of preliminary work to be completed before tickets will be offered to the public, both with regard to the printing of the tickets, account books and other necessary items, and in the preparation of the prize list. Many firms have come forward and offered valuable prizes in addition to the Sunbeam-Talbot Sports Car given by Messrs Gilman & Co., Ltd., and it is hoped to publish an advance list within the next few days.

KIDNAPPED COMPRADORE

Shanghai, Jan. 13.

The kidnapping of Mr Pan Chi-chuan, 42, better known as T. C. Pan Compradore of Jardine Matheson Co., is believed to be largely for ransom. A native of Chungshan, Mr. Pan is once an undergraduate of Hongkong University.—*International.*

LONG TRIP—Soldiers from Dominion of Canada's far western provinces are included in these troops of Second Division leaving train at East Coast port to embark for England.

COST OF LIVING IN MOSCOW JUMPS UP

In Moscow during the past year the cost of living has risen over 80 per cent. Wages are being squeezed by a tightening up of piece-rates and by a general cancellation of ways and means of earning money on the side, writes a correspondent.

Moreover, under a return to the eight-hour day (a 10-hour day is rumoured for the new year) and the two-shift system, great numbers of lower-grade workers are being turned off.

Under the local passport system many of these will be sent back to the villages. Those allowed to remain in cities will reduce the average family pay-roll.

For the first time in many years Moscow shops offer and even advertise "improved quality goods" at new fabulous prices without a rush of buyers. The provinces are said to be as empty as ever.

Hardest hit of all are the students class. Until October 3 there were 600,000 of them. Now they are melting away on the look-out for jobs.

Most of them depended on scholarships, which in some cases reached 500 roubles monthly. In future only a limited number of "perfect" students will get scholarships.

The rest of this penniless horde are now ordered to pay 400 roubles annually (in musical and art schools 600) as from September 1 last. This applies even to those in their fifth year.

Blow to Soviet Youth

Simultaneously dormitory fees have been raised from 7½ to 45 roubles per month. In some provincial universities and technical schools four-fifths of the students are leaving. Pupils in secondary school classes must also pay 200 roubles annually.

Instead, the Soviet will conscript boys from 14 to 17 to the tune of 800,000 to 1,000,000 annually for labour schools, where they will learn manual trades and railway work. Afterwards they will be sent on four years' compulsory, paid work in any part of the Soviet Union.

This harsh measure, tearing up by the root the citizen's right to education, guaranteed by the Constitution, was probably necessary, owing to the burden of armament and the dearth of skilled labour, but it seems doubtful whether the Kremlin realised the earthquake it would cause among Soviet Youth.

Good Harvest

The Russian harvest—the best since 1937—amounts to about 90,000,000 tons, as against 75,000,000 last year.

In a Europe where most harvests have been poor this is an important fact, because the Soviet will certainly make a great effort to supply her powerful neighbour Germany, having no excuse not to do so. Rail transport, as inadequate as ever, will, however, limit this supply.

The Russian bread harvest ought to have been bigger still, but wastage between ear and barn or elevator, due largely to the apathy of underfed peasants, was huge. On an average year it is 20 per cent., but this time it was certainly greater, although there was no lack of tractor fuel.

In Northern and Central Russia the potato crop is also enormous, but loss from rot and frost is likley to be big. The authorities, wisely not trusting village storage, rush the potatoes into the town and dump them into damp or frosty cellars.

State Seizes Crops

The sugar beet crop, again bigger than 1939, was late, and from one-third to one-half of it was still lying out on the fields at the beginning of October.

Spurred on by the new law requisitioning the State's share, not of what actually was, but might have been sown and harvested, the collectivised peasants got in most of the grain, but show some indifference to industrial crops. Like sugar beet, cotton is also behind.

Fruit is scarcer than ever, partly owing to a hard winter, but also because the peasants were scared by the new taxes on their private strips of garden and orchard.

The squeeze to force the collectivised peasants, man and wife, to give more time to the common field and less to their own plots is being increased. This coming year there will be enough bread at the present medium price for everybody, or nearly everybody, but hardship over everything else.

James Joyce Passes On

Zurich, Jan. 13.

James Joyce, the Irish author who wrote several books in a style of English peculiar to himself, died here to-day following an operation. He failed to rally after two blood transfusions. His son was at his bedside when he died but his wife and grandson, who are also in Zurich, were not present.

Funeral arrangements have not been made but it is possible Joyce will be buried in Zurich, where he had lived for several years, as it would be most difficult to take the body to Eire.—*United Press.*

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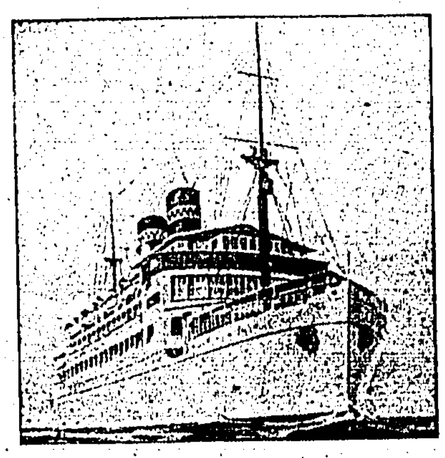

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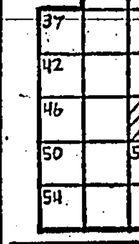

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Breatheable Tablets

1640

Crossword Puzzle

By LARS MORRIS

ACROSS

1—Stringed instrument
6—From then till now
11—Terminating
13—Recently conquered European nation
14—In the manner
15—Servants
17—For example (abbr.)
18—Couple
20—Wireless receiving set
21—Madame (abbr.)
22—Transmit
24—2,000 pounds
25—Arabian magistrate
26—Attack
28—Primate mammals
30—Screen
32—Obligation
33—Stops
35—Steering strap for horse
37—Lofty
38—At suit of (abbr.)
40—German industrial region
42—Combining form: goose
43—Child's playing-marble
45—Greek island
46—Advertisement
47—Duties paid on landed goods
49—French article
50—Glossy cotton fabric
52—Article of clothing
54—Father of Paris
55—Performances

DOWN

1—Whips
2—Reply
3—Western state (abbr.)
4—James
5—An effectual one (slang)
6—All alone
7—They (French)
8—North America (abbr.)
9—Shin-bone
10—Provided with sharp edge
12—Small insect
13—Ached
16—Worshiped image
19—Medieval military engines
21—Inhabitant of Mars
23—Boiled
25—Solids with square sides
27—Forming tool
29—Meridian (abbr.)
31—Fabled creature
33—East Indian cedar tree
34—Center of solar system
36—Fastened with nails
37—Eager
39—Male deer
41—Utters loud cry
43—Exclamation
44—Minced oath
47—Large body of water
48—Preceding
51—Note of scale
53—Tellurium

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

B	E	D		P	A	R	A	D	E		D	A	W	
A	T	E		A	N	A	T	I	V	E		E	G	A
G	A	G	T	O	L	E		V	A	T	I	C	A	N
			Y	R	A	C	E		E	D	E	M	A	
A	R	I	A		E	R	A	S	E		A	P	E	S
S	A	N	D	S		G	A	T		A	G	O	R	A
S	P	E	E	C	H		C	R	E	D	I	T		
		L	I		A	L		O	O		G		T	
S	U	B	T	L	E		S	I	S	T	S		A	
T	R	I	B	U	N	A	L		I	C	I	T		
S	H	I	R	E		D	E	N	S	E		D	A	B
		E	N	E	R	G	Y		O	L	O	G	S	
G	A	S	U	M	A	S		S	I	E	R	R	A	S
A	C	T		S	I	T	U	A	T	E		E	R	E
D	E	A		S	T	E	R	N	E	R		D	E	N

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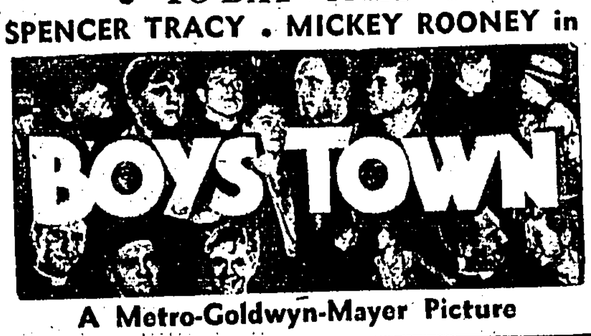

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HOW DESERT VICTORY WAS WON

STORMING OF SIDI BARRANI DESCRIBED

The capture of Sidi Barrani, which was the first signal success in the British drive against the Italians in the Western Desert, is fully described in a press dispatch just received in the Colony. Writing from Sidi Barrani itself, the correspondent says that troops which took the place were a British brigade of an Indian division which had been rushed to the spot on the previous day. The correspondent says:—

The British drive from Mersa Matruh to the Egyptian frontier will no doubt go down to history as the Battle of Sidi Barrani. In this series of engagements, which lasted four days, the fighting round Sidi Barrani itself was undoubtedly the stiffest. Here four Blackshirt divisions put up what is admitted by their opponents to have been a very stout defence. General Gallina, commanding the 23rd Corps, was personally in command and the morning after the surrender this elderly officer asked permission to address his troops. In a dignified and touching speech he thanked them for having fought as Fascists.

The troops which took Sidi Barrani were a British brigade of an Indian division which had been rushed to Nibeiwa and Tummar on the previous day. They were materially assisted by an armoured brigade which already had pushed forward behind the Italian positions and reached the coast between Sidi Barrani and Buqbuq, thus practically cutting off the Blackshirt division's retreat.

After bivouacking in the desert the three battalions advanced at dawn over the few remaining miles, a South Country battalion of the left, Highlanders in the centre, and Midlanders on the right.

About two miles south of the village they came under fire from the defences. Going in to the attack, our men found the Italians well posted in a strongly entrenched position, protected by well-sighted machine-guns, against which it was difficult to advance without heavy loss.

The help of tanks and artillery was called in. Tanks of the armoured brigade were the handiest for the leftward battalion, while guns succeeded at first in easing the way for the Midlanders on the right. These two battalions were consequently able to get forward first.

A Hail of Bullets

About two o'clock the officer commanding the Highlanders, hearing that the other two battalions were making progress on the flanks, decided to take the bull by the horns, and ordered his men to rush the position. They took their cue with a fine resolution, and, working forward under a hail of bullets from enfilading machineguns, got in among the Blackshirts with the bayonet. In a few minutes of close fighting the trench line was carried, and, advancing to the crest of the ridge behind it, the Highlanders were met by the welcome sight of the white-walled houses of the village close in front of them, with the sea behind.

By five o'clock Sidi Barrani was taken, the Blackshirts surrendering in groups as they found themselves penned in by the tanks and men of all three battalions pouring in from all sides. The last phases of the fight took place in an eddying sandstorm, which limited visibility to 200 yards.

The infantry are full of gratitude for the work of the Air Force, which successfully subdued the activity of the enemy's aircraft, so that the troops had to suffer from dive-bombing only five or six times in the course of the day.

Captured Base Visited

After a visit to the entrenched camps at Nibeiwa, Tummar, and Sidi Barrani, my first main impression is of the skill and the fighting qualities which enabled the British force to roll up in a few days an enemy force more than twice as numerous and strongly entrenched; my second impression is of the immense mass of material which the Italians had accumulated in these advanced bases for the invasion of Egypt, and which has now fallen into our hands, for the most part undamaged.

Nibeiwa, the first position to have been carried, is a camp covering a bare plateau about a mile square with a shallow valley in front. The whole position is surrounded by a double stone wall, with shelters every 50 yards for the Libyans who lined the perimeter. To the east and south it was further strengthened by anti-tank obstacles, barbed wire, and land mines. Dotted about the interior were the armaments of General Maletti's column.

The place presented an extraordinary sight, stiff with vehicles of every sort, from giant Diesel-driven 10-ton tanks to staff cars—although by the time I reached the camp most of the immediately serviceable lorries and trucks had been requisitioned for the evacuation of prisoners. Here and there troops and transport mules wandered disconsolate, and in one corner I found a sheep suckling baby lambs. Immense quantities of stores, both of food and of mechanical equipment, were stacked in tents or in the open.

Three Smaller Camps

A short way north of Nibeiwa lies a group of three camps, each somewhat smaller than Nibeiwa—namely, Habsa (otherwise known as Point 90), Tummar East and Tummar West. The troops which had taken Nibeiwa went on and captured first Tummar East, then Tummar West. Both were in our hands by Monday evening. Here, too, the action was short and sharp.

Twelve tanks, which were attached to the second Alpine division, attempted to counter-attack without success. In both engagements our casualties were remarkably small considering the results achieved. No attempt was made to assault Habsa, which was now isolated. On the morning a message was dropped into the camp informing the garrison that both Tummars had been captured, and inviting them to surrender. No answer was received, but when Indian troops advanced to attack white flags promptly went up.

As I proceeded from Tummar to Sidi Barrani the whole of a belt 10 miles wide between them appeared to be one vast munitions park. Every few hundred yards were dumps of oil fuel and other munitions. Thousands upon thousands of rounds were collected here. Prisoners declare that an advance to the Nile was expected during the coming weeks. The immense accumulation of stores which our troops found in all these camps and in the distributing centre of Buqbuq fully bears this out.

Italy Again Changes War Chief

CAVALLERO FOR ALBANIA

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—General Soddu has had little military experience although he was Vice-Chief of Staff under Marshal Graziani from June to November last year.

His two months in Albania have been one long series of defeats. At no point have the forces under his command made a stand against the Greeks and he has been outmanoeuvred on every hand by the strategy of General Metaxas and General Papagos. General Cavallero, his successor, is an experienced man and was Chief of Operations during the last war. He was made Under-Secretary for War when Mussolini came into power and he was called on to fill Marshal Badoglio's place when the latter vacated office in December.

Soddu's resignation is yet another in a long series. On December 11 Marshal Badoglio resigned, reportedly because he was disgusted at the way Mussolini had entered the war without adequate preparation and against the wish of most Italians. A day later the general in command of the Dodecanese Islands followed suit and he was joined by the naval leaders including the Chief of Naval Staff, his deputy, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Italian fleet.

Shortage of Leaders

The fact that Mussolini has had to call on his Chief of Staff is a sign of the extreme shortage of military leaders willing to conduct Mussolini's war. In addition to those who have resigned two have met their death and almost a dozen have been taken prisoner.

At the same time the Italian military situation goes from bad to worse. When General Cavallero reaches Albania he will find a Greek offensive in full swing in the central sector with Tepelini in a bad way.

The Greeks are still making gains beyond Klisuri and one correspondent calls it the biggest Greek offensive of the war.

The Italians are losing prisoners by the hour while Greek artillery is keeping up an intensive fire. The eight inches of snow which fell recently turned into six inches of mud over the week-end and more snow is falling.

Important Advance

The Greek advance is not great in distance but London circles say that it is a very important one. They have got behind Klisuri and are well on the road to Berat so that Italian lateral lines of communication are now 30 miles further north.

Tepelini is in an awkward position but is not entirely lost and part of a new Italian division has been sent there.

General Cavallero will have to provide better leadership than Soddu did if the Italians are to retain the town. Among his war trophies General Cavallero will find 1,500 hostages.

An Athens message says that the list of civilians issued on Sunday night does not represent the full total. It is impossible to say what the Italians intend to do with these civilians who include women. The taking of these hostages violates all the principles of international law and humanity and the advantage the Italians hope to gain is completely obscure.

EGG SURVIVES CRASH

Wayne Long, of Cambria, Illinois, was crossing the street with an egg in his pocket. A car hit him, broke one ankle, left the egg unbroken.

Aid To Britain Bill Obstacle Removed

FROM PAGE ONE

Bill which would limit President Roosevelt's authority to two years, and restrict loans to members of the Commonwealth and Ireland.

Mr Simpson said that he had conferred with Mr Wendell Willkie before introducing the Bill, but he declined to elaborate on this statement.

The Bill is offered as an amendment and also provides that other nations included in the original Bill have to be named by a concurrent resolution of Congress.

Investment Trust Parleys

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Henry Morgenthau, United States Secretary of Treasury, disclosed to-day that the British Government is negotiating with large groups of American investment trusts for the sale of British investments in the United States.

Mr Morgenthau said, "One very large group of investment trusts has made one offer and another group will make an offer to-morrow." He added that Sir Frederick Phillips, the British Treasury representative now in Washington, had informed him that the British Government was "ready to do business with them."

Mr Morgenthau said that he could not estimate the amount of securities that might be involved or disclose the identity of the companies which might buy them.

The British were encountering no great difficulty in selling American securities regularly traded on organized exchanges

The Federal Board recently placed the value of these investments at $850,000,000.

Time Limit

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The suggestion of a possible attempt to impose a time limit on the powers given to President Roosevelt under the Aid for Britain Bill was made at a press conference held by Mr Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives, to-day.

Mr. Rayburn said that he would not oppose the imposition of a time limit provided that the limit "ran concurrently with the emergency."

ITALIAN FORCE CUT OFF

FROM PAGE ONE

The British casualties were very small.

Oasis Bombing

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The retreat of the Italians from Bardia jeopardised the force in the oasis. A few days ago the R.A.F. bombed Italian convoys north-west of Jarabub, but it was not stated whether these were withdrawing from the oasis or were attempting to relieve the troops there.

The strength of the besieged forces is not known.

Meanwhile the hard stony desert is resounding to the roar of gunfire as British artillery continues to pound the perimeter defences of Tobruk preparatory to the final onslaught on the town. There is still no indication of the full strength of the trapped garrison, but it is believed to be considerably smaller than that at Bardia.

Its position is also more difficult than at Bardia as the outer perimeter defences straddle a broader area.

LATE NEWS

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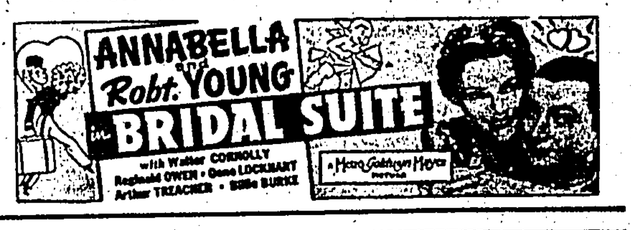

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SPECTACULAR BATTLE IN MEDITERRANEAN: ITALIAN SHIP SUNK

Special to the "Telegraph"

A RUNNING BATTLE BETWEEN BRITISH AND ITALIAN NAVAL UNITS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN LAST WEEK IS REVEALED AND DESCRIBED IN A SPECIAL MESSAGE BY GRATTON MCGROARTY, "UNITED PRESS" CORRESPONDENT ABOARD ONE OF THE BRITISH WARSHIPS ENGAGED IN THE FIGHT. THE STORY DISCLOSES THAT AN ITALIAN DESTROYER WAS SUNK AND THAT AFTERWARDS THE BRITISH WARSHIPS FOR SEVERAL HOURS WARDED OFF A CONCENTRATED AIR ATTACK BY NAZI WARPLANES. THE EXCLUSIVE STORY FOLLOWS:

ATTACKED FROM DAWN TO DUSK

BY GRATTON MCGROARTY

ABOARD A BRITISH WARSHIP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, via ALEXANDRIA, Jan. 13 (UP).—I am filing this report at 7 o'clock on Friday (January 10). German planes made an intense attack on the British fleet in the Mediterranean to-day after British cruisers and destroyers had sunk an Italian destroyer in a spectacular running battle.

The Italian warship was sunk within cannon range of one of Mussolini's Mediterranean strongholds.

After the sea battle, German planes flew over and strongly attacked the British naval units.

The day's fighting continued almost incessantly from dawn to dusk when the German dive-bomber group took part in a daring concentrated attack on this ship.

Italian planes also participated in the five air attacks to-day in which seven planes are known to have been shot down.

This was the first instance of dive-bombing in this area since the start of the war.

ITALIAN FORCE CUT OFF

Ring Tightens Round Tobruk

CAIRO, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—An Italian force is understood to be cut off and besieged in the Jarabub Oasis, some 150 miles south of Tobruk.

The force is the one which, it is believed, Marshal Graziani intended to use for an attack on Siwa Oasis on the Egyptian side of the frontier.

Tobruk's Ring of Fire

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The concentration of our troops around Tobruk continues and a correspondent there reports that long convoys of British and Australian troops, guns, tanks and supplies are coming up continuously.

There has been a slackening of Italian artillery fire from Tobruk and their shooting is wild, possibly because they have no planes to direct their fire. The British gunners on the other hand are pounding away accurately, their shells going right into the town and also landing on the wells from which the Italian garrison gets its water.

The R.A.F. confirms that Italian air bases for a distance of 70 miles beyond Tobruk have been put out of action.

It is also confirmed that one Italian division has been cut off at the Jarabub Oasis 150 miles south of Bardia. It is only a question of time before this little garrison is forced to surrender.

Silence On Libya

CAIRO, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—G. H. Q. here continues to maintain a perhaps significant silence regarding the position in Libya.

The communique says, "No change in the situation."

Active patrolling continues in the Kassala and Gallabat sectors and the British have inflicted casualties on the Italians.

On other frontiers, there is nothing to report.

The communique concludes that a British patrol has routed an Italian force in an area in Abyssinia east of Gallabat, according to reports from the Sudan. The Italians withdrew after slight resistance, leaving 40 dead and many wounded.

TURN to Back Page, Column 5

GREEK SURPRISE ATTACK

Italian Posts Dislodged

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—A violent surprise attack by Greek troops has dislodged the Italians from strongly fortified positions in the central sector of the front, says the Athens radio.

Fierce hand-to-hand engagements are reported from the northern sector where the Greeks have had the advantage in bayonet fighting.

Desperate efforts by the Italians to reinforce their positions in the coastal sector north of Chimara are nullified by the spirited Greek offensive.

Rush Reinforcements

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Military quarters revealed to-day that the Italians rushed almost an entire new division into the Topelini area after the Greeks had advanced beyond Klisura.

Orders Arrest Of Princess

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—The Department of Justice has ordered the arrest of Princess Stephanie Hohenlohe of Hungary on a deportation warrant. The Princess is now at San Francisco.

BRITAIN, AFTER THE WAR

Ideals Propounded By Mr Greenwood

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—"The British Government is deeply concerned to ensure that the free spirit of man shall emerge from the ruins of war," declared Mr Arthur Greenwood, Minister without Portfolio, broadcasting to-day.

"We must help to create conditions under which nations will be able to work out their own salvation so long as they work in neighbourly relations with others and do not flout the law of nations.

"Opportunities for aggression must be restrained by the combined will and organisation of those nations which stand for orderly progress and against the tyrannical exercise of power.

"Britain after the war will not tolerate in her midst the tragic spectacle of abject poverty nor the scourge of unemployment. We shall look forward to developing our educational system and social services. We are planning to get rid of ugliness in our towns and to build a fairer Britain and to replace the hovels that remain by worthy homes."

EIRE BASES

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The High Comissioner of Eire is authorised by his government to state that there is no truth whatever in the report published in some quarters that Mr Eamon de Valera, within the last month, was offered by the Nazi Government "every possible assistance to Eire to prevent Britain from regaining control of the naval bases she had formerly leased."

Invasion Ports Raided

Destructive Work By The R.A.F.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is officially announced that the R.A.F. last night bombed the U-boat bases at Le Havre, Brest and Lorient with "good results." The aerodromes in occupied France were also bombed.

The Air Ministry announced: "The docks at Brest were attacked with incendiary bombs and high explosives. A number of heavy bombs burst along the waterfront and fires broke out. A warehouse was set ablaze and a larger fire was started at Port Militaire.

"La Havre and Lorient were attacked with high explosives which burst on the docks. The aerodromes at Vanne, Chartres, Evereux and Morlix were attacked and aerodrome buildings were set afire. A number of aircraft on the ground at Evereux were ignited. No British planes are missing."

Raids on Italy

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is officially announced that the R.A.F. attacked and heavily damaged the oil refineries at Porto Marghere near Venice, as well as the refineries at Regentsburg in Germany, and Ostend last night.

STEAMER SENDS OUT S.O.S.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. Jan. 13 (UP).—The Coast Guard has reported the steamer Otho of the Barber Steamship Company sent out a radio request for assistance giving her position as being about 400 miles off Cape Hatteras.

There are no details other than that the steamer said: "Extremely urgent assistance needed: standby." It is assumed a heavy sea has made her unmanageable.

ATTENTION ON THE BALKANS

With persistent reports of Nazi troop concentrations in Bulgaria and new threats to Greece and Turkey, attention has again been diverted towards the stormy Balkans. Turkey is said to have intimated that she will declare war on Germany if Nazi forces cross from Rumania into Bulgaria. Meanwhile Bulgaria is insisting upon remaining neutral in the present European conflict. The accompanying map illustrates the areas affected by the latest reports from south-eastern Europe.

Clarification Of Balkans Situation

(By "Reuter's" Diplomatic Correspondent)

LONDON, Jan. 13.—Two important official pronouncements during the past 24 hours, one Russian and the other Bulgarian, have helped to clarify the immediate outlook in the Balkans.

They dispose of Nazi-inspired rumours that Germany and Soviet Russia have made a "deal" in the Balkans or that Russia has agreed to the passage of German troops through Bulgaria.

In these circumstances it is probable that the stories of large troop concentrations in Rumania are equally inaccurate though there is undoubtedly a considerable garrison in that country to protect the oilfields.

The Russian statement, coming so soon after the Soviet-German economic and northern frontier pact, emphasises the strictly limited scope of that pact. It also makes clear that the absence of any reference to the Balkans is not an oversight, but is due to the fact that no agreement was reached on the subject.

Bulgarian Declaration

The Bulgarian declaration was made by the Prime Minister, M. Filoff, only a few days after his recent return from Vienna. He reaffirmed Bulgaria's policy of peace and neutrality and alluded to the help of Russia in the recovery of the Dobrudja and he repeated that neither the Nazi nor the Communist system of government was suitable for Bulgaria.

The special significance of this speech is that it was possible for M. Filoff to make such uncompromising statements in the midst of the nerve war which Nazi agents have been fostering and promoting in the Balkans. It suggests that the German scheme has failed to upset the Bulgarian Prime Minister's equilibrium despite tendentious reports that his position is unstable.

Manhattan Is Still Aground

Listing Heavily

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. Jan. 13 (UP).—The Liner Manhattan which ran aground at Lake Inlet, seven miles north of here last night, is still hard aground, despite the fact that two revenue cutters attempted to release her at high tide. It appears that further assistance will be necessary.

The vessel is listing 15 degrees to port with the United States flag which is painted on her side barely above water. The passengers numbering 199 are still aboard.

To Remove Passengers

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Coastguards tried fruitlessly for hours to refloat the liner Manhattan.

Several hawsers snapped during the attempts and ground swells carried her further ashore.

Arrangements are being made to remove the liner's 200 passengers.

Some passengers of the Manhattan were taken off by Coast Guard cutters but surf swells interfered temporarily with plans to take them all off in small boats.

Floods Sweep Turkey

Bridges, Roads Wrecked

ANKARA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Many lives were lost and much damage was caused by disastrous floods in the Antioch region in Turkey where the River Asi overflowed following torrential rains.

The floods swept away bridges, wrecked mills, destroyed roads, uprooted trees and inundated farm lands over a wide area.

The losses of livestock have been heavy and communications are completely disrupted.

Inhabitants are being evacuated from a large zone.

The rains continue.

QUISLING ARMY

—On Paper

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Some Quislings have enrolled in a Norwegian "regiment" which their leader is attempting to raise in order to fight with the Germans against Britain.

Appeals for recruits take up much space in Quisling newspapers in Norway, where it is declared that the regiment will be known as the Nordland Regiment.

The latest Quisling Party propaganda is an attempt at culture; giving almost superhuman powers to the Party's leader.

Seeking To Avoid War With Italy?

U.S. Overtures To Rome Reported

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

ROME, Jan. 13 (UP).—The American Ambassador to Rome, Mr William Phillips, arrived at Genoa to-day en route to Rome, and it is reported in diplomatic circles that he is bearing a special message from President Roosevelt to King Victor Emanuel.

The message may suggest the possibility of the United States and Italy keeping out of the war should the United States and Germany become involved in conflict. Such an Axis precedent is seen in the fact that Germany still maintains a Legation at Athens despite the Italian war with Greece.

Only Brief Visit

For some time reports were current that Mr Phillips was returning to Rome for only a short time; there is a suggestion that he will return to Washington within a month or two and make a special report to the President.

It is pointed out that Mr Alexander Kirk was only recently appointed *Charge d'Affaires* at the Rome Embassy with Ministerial rank, and it is understood that he will continue in this post, despite the return of Mr Phillips.

Leeward Is. Bases

U.S. Marines Start

ANTIGUA, Leeward Is., Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Two officers arrived here during the week-end for the establishment of United States naval and air base on Crabbs Peninsula here.

Both officers—Commander Johnson and Major Max Smith—are of the United States Marines.

The building of a wharf, a dispensary, officers' quarters and a camp will be considered.

Sir Gordon James, Governor of the Leeward Islands, has granted a permit for the initiation of operations, and a building party consisting of three officers and 50 men of the United States Marines are expected to arrive at the end of January to begin work.

LATEST

See Back Page For Further Late News

Aid To Britain Bill Obstacle Is Removed: Administration Scores

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The first step to rush the Lease and Lend Bill through Congress was taken to-day when a vote in the House o Representatives cleared the way for the Bill to come before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House.

An effort by the Military Affairs Committee to bring the measure under its control was defeated.

The vote was taken without a debate as the rules of House allow no discussion on such an issue.

Mr Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, will be the first witness at to-morrow's hearing.

To-day's vote is regarded as a victory for the Administration in the first brush with Congress over the Bill.

Dollar Holdings

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Support appears to be steadily growing for the suggestion that Britain should be requested to post the bulk of her remaining dollar holdings in the United States against materials to be supplied under the Lease and Lend plan.

The influential "Washington Post" endorses the proposal but recalls Mr Andrew Mellon's statement in the War Debts debate that a good customber in Europe is worth more in dollars and cents than all war debts lumped together and asks, "Are we going to intensify the improvement of Europe which might then be our outstanding problem as well as theirs?"

Post-War Adjustment

It also draws attention to the possibility of using the Lease and Lend Bill and any provision in it, for posting collateral in order to cushion the shocks to the United States and the world generally in the period of post-war re-adjustment.

The newspaper suggests the use of part of Britain's overseas assets to buy foodstuffs and materials necessary to put post-war Europe back on its feet.

Spokesman Named

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Congressional opponents to the "Aid Britain" Bill have picked Senator Burton Wheeler as co-leader of the bi-partisan strategy group.

The Republican leader will be either Senator Robert Tafo or Senator Arthur Vandenburg. One will be named at a meeting this week to help lead the fight against the Bill. It is understood the first objective will be an effort drastically to limit the powers which will be granted to the President.

Revised Form of Bill

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—In the House of Representatives to-day, Rep. Kenneth Simpson introduced a revised form of an "Aid to Britain"

TURN to Back Page, Column 5

Important Four-Hour Conference In Tokyo

Special to the "Telegraph"

TOKYO, Jan. 14 (Domei).—An important conference regarding international and domestic problems was held for four hours last night until 10 o'clock at the Meguro Saryo Restaurant between high officials of the Army and the Navy and the Premier, Prince Fumimaro Konoye.

This meeting, the first of its kind, was held for further co-ordination of High Command and the Government.

It was attended by the Premier, Prince Konoye, Mr Kenji Tomita, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, Lieut-General Hideki Tojo, War Minister, Lieut-General Korechika Anami, Vice-Minister of War, Major-General Akira Muto, Director of the Military Affairs Bureau of the War Office, Admiral Koshiro Oikawa, Navy Minister, Vice-Admiral Teijiro Toyoda, Vice-Minister of the Navy, Rear-Admiral Keijun Oka, Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau of the Navy Ministry, General Gen Sugiyama, Chief of the Army General Staff, and Vice-Admiral Nobutake Kondo, Vice-Chief of the Naval General Staff.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

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H.K. Stock Market

The following quotations were issued on the Hongkong Stock Market this morning.

BANKS
H.K. Banks $..............1,380 n.
H.K. Banks £..............78½ n.
H.K. Banks (H.K.) £.......82 n.
Chartered £...............8⅝ n.
Mercantile, A. & B. £......27 n.
Mercantile, C. £..........10⅞ n.
East Asia $...............75 b.

INSURANCES
Cantons $.................205 n.
Unions $..................405 b.
China Underwriters $.......1 n.
H.K. Fire $.......107½ b. & sa.

SHIPPING
Douglas $.................135 n.
Steamboats $...............11 n.
Indo-Chinas P. $..........100 n.
Indo-Chinas D. $...........80 n.
Shell (Bearers) s/- .....46/3 n.
Waterboats $................7 n.

DOCKS ETC.
Wharves $..................94 b.
Docks (old) $...........18.60 n.
Docks (new) $..............18 n.
Providents $............5.85 n.
S'hai Dockyards $.........35[illegible] n.

MINING
Kailan s/- ....16/3 n.
Raubs $....................9¼ n.
H.K. Mines ....1¼ cts. n.

LANDS
Hotel $....................3½ sa.
Lands $..................34.60 n.
Lands 4% Debentures ......100 n.
S'hai Lands Sh $...........14 n.
Humphreys $..............7.95 n.
H.K. Realties $..........3.85 n.
Chinese Estates $.........100 n.

UTILITIES
Trams $...............18 b. & sa.
Peak Trams (old) $.......7.40 n.
Peak Trams (new) $.........3½ n.
Star Ferries $.............61 b.
Y. Ferries $..............24¼ n.
China Lights c. rts. $........—
China Lights x. rts. $......6¼ n.
China Lights Rts. $..........1 s.
H.K. Electrics (old) $.....40¼ s.
H.K. Electrics (new) $....39.85 n
Macao Electrics (old) $....17¾ n.
Macao Electrics (new) $..16¾ n.
Sandakan Lights $.........11¾ n.
Telephones (old) $........25¾ n.
Telephones (new) $.......10.20 n.

INDUSTRIALS
Cald: Macg. (Ord.), Sh. $...30 n.
Cald: Macg. (Pref.), Sh. $..25 n.
Canton Ices $................1 n.
Cements $.................18.60 n.
H.K. Ropes $.................8 n.

STORES, &c.
Dairy Farms $............19.10 b.
Watsons $................11.30 n.
Lane Crawfords $.............9 n.
Sinceres $................2.15 n.
Wing On (H.K.) $............39 n.
Powell Ltd. $..............1.90 n.

COTTON-MILLS
Ewo Sh. $...................45 n.
S'hai Cotton Sh. $.........205 n.

MISC.
H.K. Govt. 4%...............97½ n.
H.K. Govt. 3½% (1934) ......94 n.
H.K. Govt. 3½% (1940) ......94 n.
Ch Govt. 5% 1925 G$Bds. 42/47 n.
H.K. Entertainments $........7 b.
Constructions (old) $......1.60 b.
Constructions (new) $........1 n.
Vibro Piling $.............7.70 s.
Marsmans Inv. (Lon.) s/- ..7/6 n
Marsmans Inv. (H.K.) s/- ..2/0 n.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hongkong Stock Exchange Official Summary, issued yesterday says:

Although a steady undertone prevails the volume remains negligible.

Buyers
Union Ins. $405
H.K. Fire Ins. $165
Wharves $94
Humphreys $7.75
Trams $17.90
Star Ferries $61
Lights Rts Cts 90
Entertainments $7
Constructions "O" $1.60

Sellers
Lights Rts Cts. 95
Cements $18.60
Vibro Piling $7.70

Sales
H.K. Banks $1,380
Hotels $3.50
Trams $18
Lights Rts 90/95 cts.
Electrics $40

Shot Japanese Expires

SHANGHAI, Jan. 14 (Reuter).—The Japanese civilian, Dr Nishi, who was seriously injured on Sunday when he was shot by an unidentified gunman in Nanking Road, has died.

He was the 15th Japanese shot here since last September though all the other shootings took place in Japanese-controlled areas.

French Retreat Is Denied

The French Consulate here has received official denials from Indo-China that the French retreated 35 miles from the border on Sisophon as was reported by a news agency.

The message also denies a Shanghai report that Japanese naval authorities have sought the use of Saigon.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE

Mr. V. G. Bowden, Australian Trade Commissioner in China, will arrive in Hongkong about the middle of the present month for a short visit and will be glad if parties desiring to consult him in connection with Australian Trade will communicate with him, c/o Mr. S. T. Williamson, 5th. Floor, P. & O. Building.

NOTICE

DEFENCE REGULATIONS 1940

The following rates will be charged for mailing single copies of the following newspapers abroad:—

South China Morning Post
China and Macao
16 cents per copy
British Empire and Foreign
25 cents per copy

The Hongkong Telegraph
China and Macao
14 cents per copy
16 cents Saturdays
British and Foreign
20 cents per copy
25 cents Saturdays.

Britain And Indo-China-Thai Dispute

Difficult To Mediate

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Central News).—It is pointed out that if a third party intervenes in the Indo-China dispute assuredly it would not be Britain. British relations with Thailand have always been friendly. All boundary questions in the past have been settled amicably.

The present British Minister at Bangkok, Mr Crosby, is a diplomat of considerable seniority and is believed to enjoy the Thailand Government's friendship and confidence.

It is difficult, London circles emphasised, for Britain to-day to offer to mediate, since British relations with Vichy and Indo-China have ceased to exist. However, it is hoped that the United States will see her way to act as honest broker, though no such attempt has yet been heard.

Southern Pacific Base

In London it is speculated that the motive behind a possible third-party intervention, apart from the desire to occupy Indo-China, is to gain a strategic position in the area near Singapore, Burma, the Philippines, and the Dutch East Indies for operations in the Pacific. The third party also is attempting to foster the border clash into a major war in order to supply arms and munitions to Thailand. This will necessarily be accompanied by technical collaboration between the third party and Thailand which in turn could develop into economic and political control of the latter country.

Served Under Manchus

Chinese General Dies

SIAN, Jan. 14 (Central News).—The death occurred here yesterday of General Chu Ching-lan, member of the National Relief Commission, at the age of 68.

General Chu, has been doing relief work for refugees in various places despite his advanced age.

He first served under the Manchu Regime as Commander of 17th Army and Inspector-General of Heilungkiang. After the overthrow of the Manchu Regime he became Civil Governor of Kwangtung, and in 1921 Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Eastern Railway Defence Guards and concurrently Chief Civil Administrator of the Harbin Special Area. Two years later he was Director of Kiaochow Port Affairs.

Japan's Overdraft

TOKYO, Jan. 14 (Reuter).—Japan's national debt in the form of domestic and foreign loan bonds at the end of last year totalled Y28,-253,200,000, according to an official announcement by the Ministry of Finance.

These figures indicate an increase of Y1,300,300,000 on the total at the end of November and an increase of Y6,733,000,000 compared to that of one year ago.

SWAN OR GOOSE

Charged with stealing a swan, the property of the Lord Chamberlain, from Box's sake, Enfield, Leslie Francis Charles, 33, window-cleaner, of Kings Road, Wood Green, was remanded at Enfield for a week for a medical report. When arrested he was alleged to have said, "It's not a swan but a goose, and I am going to take it home and cook it."

BULLDOG FREED

A bull terrier was rescued from a demolished house in London after being trapped for two days. It was in the cellar and rescue workers did not know that it was there until they uncovered some of the debris. The dog was exhausted but unhurt.

RUMANIAN EXECUTIONERS—Peasant members of the Iron Guard marching in Bucharest, capital city of Rumania. Iron Guards defied government and began a purge of their enemies, killing scores of former King Carol's aides.

NEW BOMBER TYPES CROSS ATLANTIC

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The recent extension of the R.A.F. offensive to regular daylight as well as night bombardments lends additional interest to the news that four different kinds of United States bombers for the R.A.F. are being flown across the Atlantic.

A large number of certain types have arrived and a continuous stream will be maintained in future.

The four types are the Lockheed Hudson long-range reconnaissance bomber for the Coastal Command; the Boeing B17 four-engine bomber, popularly called the "flying fortress"; the Consolidated two-engine flying-boat; and the Lockheed Vega Ventura bomber.

Details of New Types

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Britain's 1941 air offensive, already begun, will be given fresh punch by at least four new types of American bombers.

The Boeing bomber, powerfully armed, is said to be able to carry four tons of bombs and its range is such that it is estimated that it could cross the Atlantic with a full war load of petrol and bombs. It will join the even bigger and more powerful British Short Sterling in dealing with every part of Germany's 1941 "knock out plans."

The twin-engined flying boat will boost up the strength of the R.A.F. Coastal Command where it needs it most, namely in joint protection of Atlantic convoys.

The Lockheed Hudson Vega Ventura is said to be larger and faster than the Lockheed Hudson type already famous for its work with the R.A.F. The Lockheed Hudson type now in service is considered the best all-purpose Coastal reconnaissance bomber of 1940 possessed by Britain or Germany. They have a range of from 1,500 miles upwards and to fly the Atlantic they are fitted with special tanks.

Nazi shipping and convoys, indeed any enemy vessel along the Nazi-controlled European coastline are special targets of these swift well-armed medium bombers.

Altogether there are now available to Britain some 30 types of American warplanes which are being ferried across the Atlantic by sea and air.

Exchange At A Glance

SELLING

T.T. London	1/2⅞
Demand London	1/2⅞
T.T. Shanghai	420
T.T. Singapore	52¾
T.T. Japan	102½
T.T. India	82½
T.T. U.S.A.	23⅛
T.T. Manila	46⅞
T.T. Batavia	43⅞
T.T. Bangkok	149
T.T. Saigon	101¼
T.T. France	Nom.
T.T. Switzerland	99¾
T.T. Australia	1/6½

BUYING

4 m/s L/C London	1/3½
4 m/s D/P London	1/3⅝
4 m/s L/C U.S.A.	24⅛
4 m/s France	Nom.
30 d/s India	84½
U.S. Cross rate in London	4.02½
U.S. Cross rate in N.Y.	4.03¾

Can't Help Very Much

Nazi Aid To Italy Assessed

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The German air force is hardly capable of changing the situation in Albania and Libya, says the military correspondent of the newspaper, "Dagbladet," assessing the Italian reverses.

He regards German troop transport across Italy as unlikely both on mechanical and Italian prestige grounds.

An attempt to transport troops across Yugo-Slavia and Bulgaria would be extremely hazardous especially if Turkey supported any resistance which might be offered.

The Italian reverses, he declares, may be due partly to bad luck, including premature action in Greece, the element of surprise in Egypt and bad weather but, he continues, "It would seem that Italian troops do not reach the quality of their adversaries."

RADIO

ZBW, 355 metres (845 k.c.) and 31.49 metres (9,520 kilo-cycles)

SCHUBERT SYMPHONY: THE "UNFINISHED"

Broadcast by Z. B. W. on a Frequency of 845 k.c's. and on Short Wave from 1-2.15 p.m. and 8-11 p.m. on 9.52 m.c's. per second.

H. K. T.

12.15 p.m. Short Service of Intercession.
12.30 Tino Rossi (Tenor) and the Orchestra Raymonde.
1.00 Local Time Signal and Weather Report.
1.03 Arthur Askey in Variety.—
1.30 Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.
1.45 Dance Music by Ambrose and His Orchestra.
2.15 Close Down.
5.45 Indian Programme.
6.30 Closing Local Stock Quotations.
6.32 Schubert—Symphony No. 8 in B Minor (The "Unfinished").—1st Mov: Allegro moderato, 2nd Mov: Andante con moto, Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leopold Stokowski.
6.55 Interlude.—Soiree de Vienne No. 6 (Schubert-Liszt), Wilhelm Backhaus (Piano).
7.00 London Relay—The News.
7.15 London Relay—"Questions of the Hour."
7.30 A Portuguese Programme.
8.00 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.
8.03 An hour of Variety
9.00 London Relay—The News and News Commentary.
9.30 London Relay—Talk: "Scots Abroad".
9.45 Scottish Programme.
10.15 Dance Favourites.—Scatter-
11.00 Close Down.

Planes Over Switzerland

Official Communique

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

GENEVA, Jan. 13 (UP).—The air alarm was sounded here at 8.30 a.m.

An Army Staff communique issued in Berne to-day says, "By means of detectors it was ascertained that a small number of foreign planes circled over the Canton of Vaud, Lake Geneva between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. entering from the south near Lausanne and departing in the direction of Savoy."

It was stated that foreign planes repeatedly between midnight and five a.m. violated Swiss territory at Kostern in the eastern area, as well as the Canton of Grisons near Chur in southeastern Switzerland.

There were alarms at several points. The communique did not identify the planes.

Prime Minister To Broadcast

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is learned that the Prime Minister, Mr Winston Churchill, intends shortly to broadcast to the Dutch East Indies and it is expected he will touch on Pacific affairs.

Functions In Aid Of War Fund

K.C.C. Activity

On Saturday, January 25, the Kowloon Cricket Club are holding a dance from 9.15 p.m. till 2 a.m. The music will be provided by the dance orchestra of the 2nd Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regt), by kind permission of Lieut.-Col. D. J. McDougall, M.C., and Officers.

Light refreshments will be provided, and there will be spot prizes. Tickets are, Ladies $1.50 and Gentlemen $2; and members are requested to state their requirements on the form provided at the Club.

To benefit the Bomber Fund a $1 sweep is being organised for this occasion, with valuable prizes, many given by members. In this connection, if any member or friend has any article suitable for a prize, such will be gratefully acknowledged by the Committee, if forwarded to the Club, addressed to the Secretary.

On Saturday, February 8, at 9.15 p.m. The Band of the 2nd Bn The Royal Scots (The Royal Regt) by kind permission of Lieut.-Col. D. J. McDougall, M.C., and Officers, will give another concert as a further contribution on their part to the Bomber Fund, and it is hoped that the success of December will be repeated.

Tickets are at the same prices as for the dance above mentioned, and a sweep is also being run in connection with this function.

These events will be followed by another play, full particulars of which will be announced later.

By these efforts it is hoped to bring the amount contributed through the medium of the Club for the Bomber Fund up to $10,000, and this in itself should ensure generous support from all.—*Contributed.*

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Amritsar	Ipoh	Saigon
Bangkok	Iloilo	Semarang
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Bombay	Klang	Shanghai
Calcutta	Kobe	Singapore
Agencies:	Kuala	Sitiawan
Clive Street	Lumpur	Sourabaya
Fairlie Place	Kuching	Taiping
Canton	Madras	Tientsin
Cawnpore	Manila	Tongkah
Cebu	Medan	(Bhuket)
Colombo	New York	Tsingtao
Delhi	Peiping	Yokohama
Haiphong	(Peking)	
Hamburg	Penang	
Hankow		

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking Business transacted.

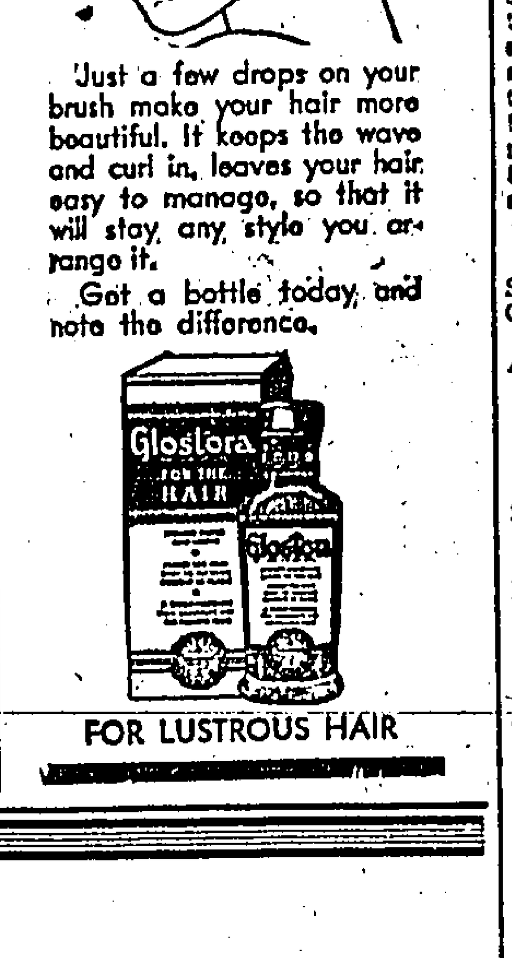
CURRENT ACCOUNTS opened and FIXED DEPOSITS received for One Year or shorter periods in Local or Other Currencies at rates which will be quoted on application.

SAVINGS ACCOUNTS also opened in Local Currency and Sterling with interest allowed at rates obtainable on application

The Bank's Head Office in London undertakes Executor & Trustee business and claims recovery of British Income Tax overpaid, on terms which may be ascertained at any of its Agencies and Branches.

R. A. CAMIDGE,
Manager.

Glostora



Just a few drops on your brush make your hair more beautiful. It keeps the wave and curl in, leaves your hair easy to manage, so that it will stay any style you arrange it.

Got a bottle today and note the difference.

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POST OFFICE

BROADCAST RECEIVING LICENCES

Holders of licences which expired at the end of 1940 are reminded that if it is desired to retain possession of the apparatus after the date of expiration of the licence a renewal must be effected without delay.

New Licences will be available at the Government Radio Office, G.P.O. Building, First Floor, on ordinary business days, and will be issued against the receipt of a remittance of $12.00, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. except on Saturdays when licences will be issued between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Applications may be made:—
(a) personally.
(b) by messenger.
(c) by post.

It is essential under (c) and preferable under (a) and (b) that applications should be accompanied by crossed Cheque payable to Hongkong Government. The new licence will then be sent by post or messenger as soon as it is ready. Where actual cash is tendered a new licence should be received in exchange before leaving the Licensing Office.

In the case of renewal the old licence should be returned with the application.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

Calcutta, Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (except London) by Sea from Singapore ....Jan. 14.
Sandakan ....Jan. 14.
Canton ....Jan. 15.
Rabaul and Manila ....Jan. 16.
Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (Australia only) by sea from Singapore. Jan. 16.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 9th January ....Jan. 17.
Java and Manila ....Jan. 18.
Canton ....Jan. 18.
United Kingdom and Straits Jan. 19.
Australia and Manila ......Jan. 20.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 14th January. ....Jan. 21.
Australia and Manila ....Jan. 22.
Sandakan ....Jan. 23.
United Kingdom and Straits Jan. 24.
Calcutta and Straits ....Jan. 25.

OUTWARD MAIL TIMES

Registered and Parcel Mail are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the previous day. When mails are advertised to close after 5 p.m., Registered and Parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 15
Straits and Rangoon ......3.30 p.m.
Canton .... 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 16
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways."
K.P.O. & G.P.O.
Reg. ......Jan. 16, 10.30 a.m.
Ord. ....Jan. 16, 11 a.m.
Straits and Calcutta
Parcels ......Jan. 16, 11 a.m.
Letters ......Jan. 16, Noon.
Manila, Mauritius, Lourenco Marques, and South Africa via Durban 3.30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 17
Sandakan ....8.30 a.m.
Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways."
K.P.O.
Reg. ....Jan. 17, 4 p.m.
Ord. ....Jan. 17, 4.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. ....Jan. 17, 4 p.m.
Ord. ....Jan. 17, 4.30 p.m.
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A., and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services"
K.P.O.
Reg. ....Jan. 17, 5 p.m.
Ord., ...Jan. 17, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. ....Jan. 17, 5 p.m.
Ord., ...Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 18
Manila, Macasser and Sourabaya 8.30 a.m.
Manila, Madang, Salamaua Rabaul, Australia and New Zealand via Sydney
G.P.O. and K.P.O.
Parcels ......Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. ....Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. ....Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and United Kingdom via San Francisco (No Parcels for Canada and United Kingdom)
Note:—All mails for United Kingdom will be forwarded with or without Superscription
K.P.O.
Parcels ....Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. ....Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. ....Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Parcels ....Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. ....Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. ....Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 19
Haiphong ....9 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 20
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways"
K.P.O.
Reg. ....Jan. 20, 11 a.m.
Ord. ......Jan. 20, 11.30 a.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. ....Jan. 20, 11 a.m.
Ord. ......Jan. 20, 11.30 a.m.
Canton ....5 p.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 21
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu U.S.A., and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."
Kowloon P. O.
Reg., ...Jan. 21, 5.00 p.m.
Ord., ...Jan. 21, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg., ...Jan. 21, 5.00 p.m.
Ord., ...Jan. 21, 7.00 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 23
Sandakan, Madang, Salamaua, Rabaul and Tulagi ....12.30 p.m.
*Superscribed Correspondence Only.

Library, Supreme Court

EXHAUSTED BY FEVER?

Then read this:—

You are not out of danger when fever has subsided. The weakness it leaves behind exposes you to relapse or fresh infection. You must rebuild your worn-out body immediately and quickly.

The way to do this is to find a food that soothes the enfeebled stomach and provides all the nutrition value of big, solid meals. The food very many doctors choose for their fever patients is Horlicks. It is nourishment in the most easily digested form. It repairs the damage to nerves and tissues, builds up strength, creates new vitality and helps to keep complications out of convalescence. Patients who turn against other foods are able to enjoy Horlicks. Get it to-day from your store. (9)

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Hollywood Stars—glamorous and chic—jealously safe-guard their matchless beauty by the use of the most scientifically prepared preparations,—and more and more are now choosing **MERLE NORMAN'S.**

Merle Norman Cold Cream for a thorough cleansing,

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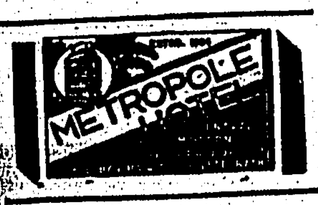
H.K. Society for the Protection of Children

WE ARE AT WAR

OUR ammunition consists of HONG KONG DOLLARS AND CENTS it is running low.

Please send us new supplies.



WAR DRUMS BEAT AS LION OF JUDAH SUMMON ABYSSINIANS

(By "Reuter's" Correspondent)

KHARTOUM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The nightly brooding of the Ethiopian sky resounds to the roll of drums, spelling out a message for which the Ethiopians have been waiting five years—that the Emperor is near at hand and that the moment of deliverance is not far off.

In a special interview granted me by the Lion of Judah, I learned that the dark, bearded, distinguished Emperor has already made contact with the Ethiopian chiefs from the interior.

The last time I saw the Emperor he was disembarking at Haifa five years ago from a British destroyer after his flight from Abyssinia.

Then he was careworn and dejected; to-day, he sat on a purple silk-covered wooden throne in his little square palm-fringed palace beside the placid waters of the Blue Nile.

Alert and bright-eyed, he is another being. In a voice vibrant with confidence, he told me of his plans—that the day was not far distant when he would cross the border and lead the Ethiopian patriot army against the enemy.

There was a glint of assurance in his eyes as he exlaimed, "I will tear down the figure of the wolf erected by the Italians in Addis Ababa Square and in its place will reinstate the white marble statute of the Lion of Judah, the original of which they took to Rome."

Revolt Making Headway

Haile Selassi was well-pleased with the progress of his army's training and added, "The revolt is making great headway, thanks to the wholehearted support of the British Government."

"It is the writing on the wall. The days of my former Italian ally who betrayed my country, are numbered. He built fine roads but he killed and enslaved thousands of my people; he failed to break their spirit and I look forward to their liberation and the institution of a just, constitutional government."

The Emperor told me that just as Marshal Badoglio had done, he would personally lead his victorious troops to Addis Ababa, mounted on a white horse.

I asked him if it was true that the Royal Crown of the House of Judah was now in Rome. He said that the crown which Badoglio took to Rome was stolen by the Italians from the Ethiopian Church and was not the Emperor's Crown.

War Drums Beat

He went on to explain about the royal war drums which nightly are beating on the hilltops of Gojjam and along the frontier. "There are 44 of them. Some are big, others are small, hollowed out from tree trunks and covered with cowhide. My chieftains are allowed a maximum of 12 drums each, but mine sound a particular signal and when the peculiar note of those drums is heard my people know that I am nearby.

"I know that they are hearing and understanding the message of my drums because hundreds of former soldiers who were forced to fight with the Italians are deserting and rallying to the standard raised at Gojjam by my faithful commanders."

The Emperor then held a clandestine meeting with a number of Ethiopian chiefs from the interior. At the risk of their lives, they made their way to the meeting on the frontier and upon ascertaining that their Emperor was really there they one and all re-pledged their fealty.

The audience terminated on a personal and still confident note. "I hope you will accompany me when I return to my country," said the Emperor as I left the palace.

BRITISH RESOURCES DEBATE

Country Still Dissatisfied

(BY "REUTER'S" LOBBY CORRESPONDENT)

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—It is anticipated that the well-known expert, Sir William Beveridge, will be appointed to take full-time direction of the country's manpower problem.

Discussion on new proposals to accelerate the war effort is intensifying in political circles, politicians having now had a week to consider them and even now it cannot be said that there is general approval, criticism being focussed on the questions of manpower and production.

The next Parliamentary debate, originally intended to be a secret session, is on manpower and production, and the House of Commons will have an opportunity of expressing its views on the changes made. Many feel that the whole question of manpower and production needs more effective dealing and more action.

Lonely Life Of Puppet Wang Told

The lonely, fear-filled life of the Japanese puppet leader in China, Wang Ching-wei, was described by the Consul-General for China, Dr Pao, in an address to the China Society in Sydney.

"Loyal and useful Chinese hate Wang Ching-wei for his treason to his country," said Dr Pao. "Though about 20 per cent. of China's soil is under Japanese occupation, Japan has not actually been able to hold these places. Her penetration extends to no more than 12 per cent. of that 20 per cent.

"Wang Ching-wei may have a few followers hanging round, but actually he cannot trust any one of any rank. He lives like a prisoner, and even his meal has to be cooked and served by his wife. Inside his prison-like house in Nanking, Wang is surrounded by a group of Japanese 'advisers,' and outside his master, Japan, provides him with bodyguards.'

"Treaty Train"

'The feeling of the Chinese people in regard to the so-called 'Wang-Japan treaty' is indicated by the strike of Shanghai policemen and the blowing up of the 'treaty train' the other day. If Wang hopes to secure some gain by selling himself as a slave to Japan, he is merely 'consulting with a tiger for its skin.'

"In the present world, peace is indivisible. Unless peace with justice is secured throughout the world, and unless every single Japanese soldier is driven off China's soil, my country and my people will continue to fight. We need material and the moral support of friendly peoples, but China's power of resistance is the determination of her people to fight. The success or failure of the determination of my country and my people will determine the fate of the Pacific."

Peace Terms Allegations Enquiry

JOURNALIST TO BE QUESTIONED

NEW YORK, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Verne Marshall, Chairman of the "No Foreign War Committee," announced to-day that he had been served with a subpoena to appear before the Grand Jury of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and added that he did not know the reason.

Mr Marshall, who is a newspaper editor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, alleged a fortnight ago that President Roosevelt had a chance a year ago to halt the European war and still had the chance to serve as peacemaker if he grasped it.

He told a sensational story of German official peace terms being flown to the United States in September, 1939, by William Rhodes Davis, the New York oil operator. He further alleged that these terms were suppressed by the State Department although they involved "just and honourable" terms for a peace conference to be held at the White House with President Roosevelt as mediator.

Nazi Air Blitz In Mediterranean

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Rumours of a coming Nazi air blitz in the Mediterranean are being spread from Berlin.

The Berlin correspondent of the "Dagens Nyheter" reports to-day that the German military command is obviously alive to the ever-increasing importance to the operations in the Mediterranean and lively activity by the German air force may be expected in that area in the next few weeks.

Standard Press For Norway

The Norwegian Government is trying to swing public opinion by standardising Press and broadcast reports. Oslo editors are compelled to attend the propaganda ministry's daily conferences. The number of provincial papers has been reduced to a minimum.

Norway's Nazi clerical, M. Jerdle, appeals to Norway's churches to accept and adapt themselves to the New Order. He declares that the National Council has undertaken not to interfere with religious observances as long as the Church abstains from politics.

Norwegians are incensed at the hypocrisy of permitting M. Jerdle to practice politics and appealing to other clergy to refrain from doing so.

Obstacle To French Thai Negotiations

—Bangkok Dignity

SINGAPORE, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The withdrawal of the French Minister to Thai last May to take up the appointment of Minister to Venezuela was given to "Reuter" by the Thai Consul here as the reason why Thailand is not in a position to negotiate with the French.

The Consul said that Admiral Decoux, the Governor-General of Indo-China, had expressed his willingness to undertake such negotiations but the Thai Government could not recognise the appointment of the Indo-Government official who replaced M. Lepisseer.

Indo-China was not a sovereign Power with which the Thai Government could negotiate.

A way might be opened for negotiations if M. Lepisseer resumed his duties as French Minister.

Nazi Kultur In France

Libraries Raided

Systematic attempts are being made by the German authorities in Paris to stamp out French culture, according to visitors now in the United States from Switzerland and quoted by Edgar Mowrer, Washington correspondent of the "Chicago Daily News."

Three Germans, Kruess, director of the Berlin State Library, Becker and Fuchs, also librarians, he says, constitute a commission in Paris under whose orders all books felt to be contrary to the Nazi spirit are removed from public and private libraries and from bookstalls. At the same time, booksellers have been forced to display German propaganda works.

Catholic documents have also been seized, and according to Mowrer's informant the "Germans tried with physical violence to wrest Vatican correspondence from the hands of Cardinal Lienart, Archbishop of Lille."

Historic Room Undamaged

THE room where Queen Victoria was born, and the bedroom where she was aroused from sleep and told that she was Queen of Britain, escaped damage when Kensington Palace was hit in a recent night raid.

A shower of incendiary bombs was dropped, and a fierce blaze, fanned by a strong wind, destroyed the roofs and top stories of buildings around the clock court quadrangle.

The State apartments by Wren did not entirely escape. Queen Mary's privy chamber; King William's bedroom, and Queen Mary's bedroom were extensively damaged.

Turks & Allies

ANKARA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Major-General Cornwall and Air Vice-Marshal Elmhurst, of the British Middle East Command, have arrived here for conversations with the Turkish General Staff.

Irish In N. America

OTTAWA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—"Millions of people of Irish descent in North America would acclaim every act of co-operation on the part of Eire in the war against the Axis," states a cablegram sent to-day from Irish Canadians in Canada to the Eirean Government.

The cable was signed by Dr R. Manion, former leader of the National Conservative Party, on behalf of a group of prominent Irish Canadians in various parts of the Dominion.

FRENCH WRECK CARS

OCCUPIED France is fighting its German taskmasters with the same weapon which caused the downfall of the French nation—sabotage and fifth column work.

The car park in the Paris suburb of Le Vesinet, which has been filled with German Army cars and armoured vehicles, was reported in Vichy recently to have been sabotaged.

Passive resistance to the German officials in the occupied zone is increasing and the Germans have tightened control of the frontier line to prevent secret crossing of people over the border.

It is also reported that Germans have issued a warning that anyone caught sending food from occupied to unoccupied France will be severely punished.

Reports reaching New York say that sabotage has been rife in French large industrial and munitions factories now under Nazi control. Machinery is being constantly tampered with products ruined.

Overtime for Gestapo

The engines of Nazi officials' cars are put out of action, and the tyres slashed. Whole wardrobes of clothes have vanished mysteriously from the hotel suites of officials.

Nazi Army Officers have been found injured and beaten up in Paris Streets.

Himmler's Gestapo are working overtime to discover the agents responsible, but have so far failed miserably.

Mystery Of Yacht 'Wing On'

The mystery of what happened to the small sailing yacht Wing On, long missing in a South Seas cruise, was solved after discovery of its wreckage on remote Visoqo Reef, near Vanua-Levu island.

Abroad were the bodies of a man and woman who apparently had starved to death, and one survivor, believed to be Mrs Fern Thompson, of Salt Lake City. Another man was believed to have been washed away in the sea.

Summer Trip

The Wing On, owned by Dalton Condley, 26, left Oakland, Cal., last summer for Hawaii, stopping at San Pedro en route to pick up Robert Thompson and his wife.

A year ago Condley and his 20-year-old wife, an expectant mother, started for Hawaii, but after three days her condition necessitated her removal to a Coast Guard cutter. The baby, a boy, was born shortly afterward and was reported now to be with Condley's mother, Mrs A. M. Condley, in California.

Belgium Prepared As Base For Invasion

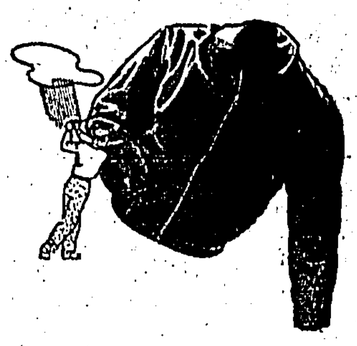
LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—In preparation for an attempt to invade Britain, thousands of workers have been drafted by the Germans to repair waterways and bridges destroyed during the invasion of Belgium, according to news received in London by the "Free Belgian" news service.

The Germans have aimed first at re-establishing navigation between Bruges and Ghent and the port of Antwerp. Men have been working day and night to repair canals.

Some 750 bridges were destroyed during the fighting last May and hundreds of ships were sunk in the waterways and ports.

A system of "voluntary" labour service on the Nazi model has been started in Belgium and a special camp is due to be opened this week for the instruction of leaders to take charge of labour camps.

Despite the propaganda drive carried on for some months, the number of "volunteers" for the labour service is very small.



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"R. Abbit's" Cricket Comments

EARLY AND LATE DECLARATIONS

K.C.C. Juniors Hold On Too Long: L.T. Ride Saves University

THERE WERE two rather curious games on Saturday last and they illustrated two very different views on cricket. The I.R.C. made a very sporting declaration against the University first eleven to enable them to have a chance of winning. The fact that they lost does not to my mind alter the fact that they did the right thing.

Batsmen In Scoring Mood

Against the University second,—not a dangerous batting side though they can keep their wickets up—the K.C.C. second eleven held on until ten past four when they had 211 on the board. It is true that it enabled two men to complete their centuries. But it probably cost the side a win.

Hulse batted very well for the Craigengower side, and I was sorry only to see the last third of his innings. Going in first wicket down he remained undefeated at the end of the innings scoring fifty-eight.

As the next highest batting score was nine, Craigengower would have made an even worse showing but for the fact that there were 45 extras!

It is not a big ground and if the wicket-keeper misses the ball it is at the boundary at once, but this is far below Archie Zimmern's true form.

The strong K.C.C. batting made little of the task of getting 126 runs and Anderson (41) D. Hung (23) and E. F. Fincher (47) got most of them. I am glad to see Ernie Fincher getting runs again as he has had a poor season.

Sporting Declaration

I WAS very interested to see that Ride has decided to play for the Varsity in the league. It will stiffen their batting tremendously. They are already a very much improved side and should do quite well.

The Indians got 154 for 5 declared and I am told the Varsity had an hour and three quarters to get the runs and did so. All honour to both sides.

Ride's 66 not out was the decisive score, but Fenton got 24, and the captain, N. C. Sen Gupta, was not out 16, hitting off the runs with Ride.

Minu got 4 for 82 and I rather think the matting does not suit him. He and A. H. Madar bowled all but three of the 29 overs sent down and it is clear that the Indians are sadly in need of some good change bowlers.

Regrets

I SEE from Mr Mahmood's letter that I owe him an apology. Actually I stated the Army case and writing my notes on Sunday at my house I could not check up from the University card and forgot to on Monday morning!

According to that and the I.R.C. card, a friendly between the two Clubs had been arranged and I presume this was cancelled for the "domestic" fixture. It appears evident that some misunderstanding occurred, and the Army list does not agree with fixtures down in the University card.

I still adhere to the view, which is general and not particular, that it would be wise for all Club secretaries to check up on their games a couple of days before.

Century At The Club

THERE was a carefree game between the Club "A", which included Major Grose, Richardson and Perry. The latter got 46 and C. W. E. Bishop 55 not out—a good knock to watch. The score was 150 for 8 when Richardson, (who I understand was acting captain), declared.

He had reckoned without some good Royal Scots' batting, for the first four bowlers could do nothing against Douglass and Coombes. Perry going on third change (!) took a wicket for 3 runs in 2 overs,—he bowled Douglass when he had made forty-five and then Dicky took him off and put himself on!

Coombes hit very hard and reached his century while Emmerson shaped well for his 23 not out. The Royal Scots had scored 190 for 3 wickets when stumps were drawn. It is very pleasant seeing a regimental team going.

Second Division

THE Indians' second eleven fared no better than the first as they could only muster 150 runs. At the beginning of the season I should have thought that enough against Craigengower second, but they have improved,—and managed,—thanks to the fact that A. Hung, C. W. Lam, A. B. Hamson, U. M. Omar, and U. H. Esmail all made scores of over twenty, to get the runs for 7 wickets. A. M. Omar's five wickets for thirty-three was a useful performance.

Two Centuries

I CANNOT recall any instance of two opening batsmen each making a not out century in Hongkong as Baxter and Tom Madar did on the K.C.C. ground. 211 for no wicket was the result. The University managed to hold out.

It is true they only had two less overs than the K.C.C. batsmen, but they might have had several more!

Fenton did his best with 5 for 35, but Naranjan Singh going in number eight dug in and was not out 27, while Kenneth Lo hung on also and got 15 runs.

Only 8 wickets fell and the match was drawn.

Recreio On Top

F. J. REMEDIOS rather took tea with the Police bowling and in the later part of his innings, which was all I saw, he played some very nice strokes, and just completed his 50 before the declaration at 165 for 8 wickets.

There were several fours hit early on by the Police batsmen, but a procession started and they were all out for sixty.

Army "A" Win

THE Civil Service second eleven lost a very low scoring game to the Army "A"—or so, I suppose. They could only manage to get 34 runs. Hawkins took 5 for 13 and three batsmen were run out! The Army only got 64 for 9, and I see Colledge took three wickets for no runs.

The China New Year Game

IT is pleasant to hear that the Club have their two-day fixture against the K.C.C. Recently I have noticed that they seem to be meeting the same opponents quite frequently, and I do not think a Club v Army match nearly such a good fixture.

The Club will have to dig out some bowling,—Perry, McLellan and Baker will form a nucleus.

Dicky Richardson had the effrontery to inform me that he was not playing as he was having a golfing holiday at Fanling. What would have happened to him if he had not been giving me a run down to the Valley in his car I don't know. Golf!

I trust he will have a pleasant holiday and that the putts drop as well as the gins, but I shall miss his batting—and so will the Club.

However, its about time Alec Pearce made another of his centuries.

George Sousa (Craigeng ower) allowing one to pass on the off. A. Zimmern (Kow loon) keeping wicket. Picture taken during the First Division League match at Happy Valley on Saturday.—*Ming Yuen.*

Chess

Progress In Kowloon Club Tournaments

ENTRIES for the Senior Colony Chess Championship this year do not include that of K. M. A. Barnett, last year's champion. The names received are those of E. Zimmern (runner-up last year), C. M. Sequeira, D. E. de Carvalho, K. Weiss, L. Karpovich and G. S. Coxhead.

Senior and Junior championships of the Kowloon Chess Club have been divided into two sections for each—"A" and "B"—and the winners of each Section will meet in the best of three games to decide the absolute winners.

The field is fairly open in the "A" Section of the Senior Championship where both Sequiera and Karpovich have scored 5½ points each, although the former has a game in hand. In the "B" Section it looks very much like a victory for Carvalho, who has 6½ points in eight games. Birlukoff, his nearest rival, having scored 5 points in nine games.

V. V. Kolatchoff and J. Grefalda are vieing for honours in the "A" section of the Junior Championship, while S. Benjamin, who has obtained 6 points in seven games, looks a certain winner of "B" section. Tables to date are:

Senior Tournament, Section "A"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
C. M. Sequeira	7	4	3	0	5½
L. Karpovich	8	5	1	2	5½
G. S. Coxhead	7	4	2	1	5
K. Weiss	6	2	0	4	2
H. A. Samuel	7	1	0	6	1
*P. A. Yvanovich	3	0	0	3	0
	38	16	6	16	19

*Has withdrawn from Tournament.

Senior Tournament, Section "B"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
D. E. de Carvalho	8	6	1	1	6½
G. V. Birlukoff	9	5	0	4	5
K. M. A. Barnett	6	4	0	2	4
B. D. Evans	8	2	2	4	3
M. W. Olsufieff	7	2	1	4	2½
W. Lee	8	2	0	6	2
	46	21	4	21	23

Junior Tournament, Section "A"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
J. Grefalda	9	6	0	3	6
V. V. Kolatchoff	8	5	0	3	5
F. A. Fabel	7	4	0	3	4
A. C. Poupard	7	4	0	3	4
*A. C. Mitchell	8	3	0	5	3
Th. Laufer	9	2	0	7	2
	48	24	0	24	24

*Has withdrawn from Tournament.

Junior Tournament, Section "B"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
S. Benjamin	7	6	0	1	6
J. H. D'Almeida	8	5	1	2	5½
D. Drake	7	4	0	3	4
A. Benjamin	5	4	0	1	4
C. Lee	7	1	0	6	1
J. Walther	8	0	1	7	½
	42	20	2	20	21

Golf

G.M. Park Wins Bomber Fund Competition

The golf play-off at Fanling of the tie between G.M. Park (7), G. Thomerson (20) and T. Mcgarry (11) in the first competition in aid of the "South China Mroning Post" Bomber Fund, resulted in a win for Park, who returned a card of one up.

ADAMSON CUP

G. W. Reeve returned a card of 70-12=64, at Happy Valley, to qualify for the January round of the Adamson Cup competition.

Britain's Fighters Carry On Even When Off Duty

INTERNATIONAL belligerence generally has resulted in the private variety being stimulated considerably. Between 1914-1918 there were twenty-five title fights in England and the Inter-Allied Tournaments during 1918 and 1919 provided an immense stimulus to the boxing game in London.

The Beckett-Carpentier fights brought the game to its apex in London and if their heavyweights were not of the best at the time they had Ted "Kid" Lewis, one of the best welters ever, Jimmy Wilde, a strong contender for the title of the finest fly-weight the world has ever seen, and Tancy Lee, who beat Wilde as a fly-weight and then won the featherweight title three times, annexing the Lonsdale Belt outright for this great performance.

HOW, then, is this war affecting boxing in England? For the first month or two chaos reigned. In the Provinces the game struggled on in Liverpool and the north-east, but in London only one hall, the Devonshire Sporting Club, kept the game alive.

Then Sydney Hulls, probably the principal promoter in England, began Monday afternoon shows at the Stadium Club.

The boxing fraternity, bewildered by the absence of their greatest stimulant, crept out of their holes and Monday afternoons became get-together day in which the hand shaking and greetings almost made the actual boxing a poor obligato.

THEN, when no aeroplanes came over, they felt that perhaps this war was not going to be the completely devastating thing they imagined, and Mr Hulls put his shows on in the evenings on Mondays.

The next and really first big boxing event was the lightweight championship title bout at Harringay Arena in which Eric Boon successfully defended his crown against the former champion, Dave Crowley.

This finished disappointing, for after seven rounds, Crowley's Achilles tendon on his right leg went and Boon thus retained his championship. Probably he would have done so anyway, but the mercurial Crowley can be accounted just a little unlucky on that occasion.

Women's Yacht Race

The second women's championship series race sailed by the Yacht Club yesterday over 7.5 miles resulted:

True Blue	4.42.00	Miss Wilson	1
Artemis	4.42.14	Mrs J. E. Potter	2
Redshank	4.42.56	Miss Pritchard	3
Gull	4.43.45	Miss Richards	4

Did not finish.—Maureen.

Y.M.C.A. Cricket Team

The following have been selected to represent Y.M.C.A. against University at cricket on January 26 at Pokfulam:

F. E. Lawrence (captain), W. T. Mitchell, H. D. Bruce, H. Brokenshire, C. T. Eager, A. E. Perry, C. Logan, W. F. Gegg, E. Curtis, W. H. Ingleby, F. Willis. Reserve, G. Davidson. Umpire, C. T. Teiran.

Badminton

CHINESE "Y" BEAT RECREIO 6-3 IN "A" DIVISION

The Chinese "Y" defeated Recreio "A" in a first division badminton league match at the Y.M.C.A., last night by six games to three.

Detailed results:

C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y") beat L. A. Carvalho and M. A. Silva 21-13; beat J. J. Remedios and H. Gonsalves 21-15; beat M. A. Oliveira and A. M. Rodrigues 21-13.

P. H. Wong and T. C. Lau (Chinese "Y") beat Carvalho and Silva 21-8; lost to Remedios and Gonsalves 14-21; lost to Oliveira and Rodrigues 17-21.

F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y") beat Carvalho and Silva 21-8; lost to Remedios and Gonsalves 8-21; beat Oliveira and Rodrigues 21-12.

PROPOSAL TO INVITE RIGGS TO AUSTRALIA VETOED

MELBOURNE (UP).—The council of the Australian Lawn Tennis Association have turned down a request from the Queensland Association for permission to invite the American star, Bobby Riggs, to play matches in Australia on behalf of the Red Cross.

The Australian Council took the position that such an invitation would be unfair to the United States Association which had agreed not to challenge for the Davis Cup during the war.

It was also stated that it was inappropriate and inimical to public policy to invite American players to Australia for any other purpose.

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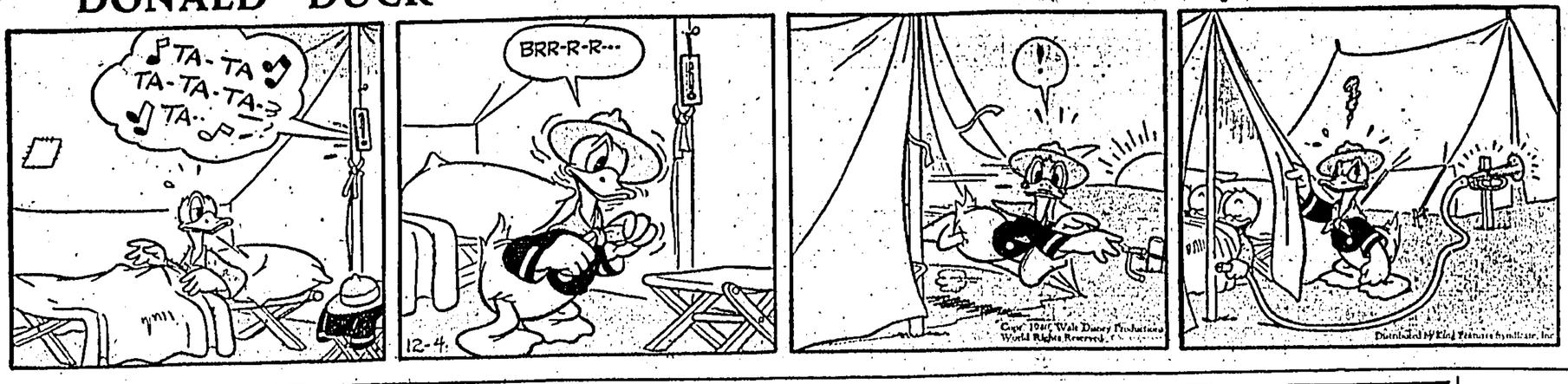
DONALD DUCK

By Walt Disney



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MAGAZINE PAGE

British Air Strength:

Why Men and Machines Are Superior

Day by day, the air war over Britain provides proof that British aeroplanes are superior in design and construction to those of Germany.

Indeed, the proof is so conclusive as to make Britain's pre-war claims appear far too modest. In numbers only has the enemy now a measure of superiority, and this will be soon offset by the gigantic effort being made in Britain and in the Empire generally.

To appreciate the achievement of the British aircraft industry, it is well to note that, because of Britain's gesture of disarmament, the Air Force ranked fifth among those of the nations in 1932. The British Government hesitated long in the hope that an arms race could be avoided. Eventually, the need of expanding the R.A.F. could not be denied, and in May 1935 a programme was announced for completion by March 1937.

Developments in Germany revealed that this step was not enough, and a second and larger scheme was announced for completion by March 1939.

☆ ☆ ☆

Just before the war, the rate of production was four times that of the preceding year. Present day figures cannot be revealed, of course, but it may with justification be believed that Britain is equalling Germany's output, at least, and her losses have been much smaller.

It was fortunate, indeed, that quality in British airmen and material served to make up leeway in quantity. It is this quality which has decided many an issue when weight of numbers appeared to be overwhelming against British airmen.

When the tremendous acceleration of aircraft building was decided on, the response of aircraft industry was spontaneous and full blood. For example, the famous Rolls Royce company almost completely discarded its motor car activities, with the exception of a skeleton staff to ensure post-war efficiency in the motor trade, the entire resources of Rolls Royce were concentrated on production of engines.

So it was throughout the industry, and a truly staggering revelation will be made when the actual facts and figures of this change-over are eventually published.

With the reorganisation of the plants, research and development continued, and were increased, to enhance the superiority of British machines generally.

☆ ☆ ☆

A notable step—it may be disclosed now—was the Rotol constant speed airscrew designed for the single engined fighters. The Spitfire, already the fastest aircraft in service in any air force, was made still faster by the introduction of this airscrew, and the Hurricane's performance was correspondingly improved. The Spitfire became capable of more than 400 m.p.h., and to add to the striking power of this formidable pair came the Defiant with its power-operated gun turret amidships.

Among Britain's bombers, the Wellington is one of the most successful heavy types ever built, this twin-engined midwing monoplane has a range with a full bomb load of 3,200 miles, which means that it could fly non-stop from London to New York and still have a substantial mileage in reserve.

Next on the bomber list come the Hampden and the Whitley, both twin-engined midwing types. The range of each is about 2,000 miles, which would enable them to fly non-stop with a full load, from Sydney to Perth.

The Hampden has a top speed to that of the Wellington. The Whitley's maximum is about 20 m.p.h. less. Both carrying big bomb loads and heavy defensive armament. Like the Wellington, the Whitley is equipped with power-operated gun turrets in nose and tail. These turrets have been used by the R.A.F. for some time, but it is interesting to note that the Germans discovered only just recently, the principles on which they work.

The Blenheim is the best known of Britain's multi-purpose "jobs". It has a top speed of 295 m.p.h. and a service ceiling of about 30,000 feet.

☆ ☆ ☆

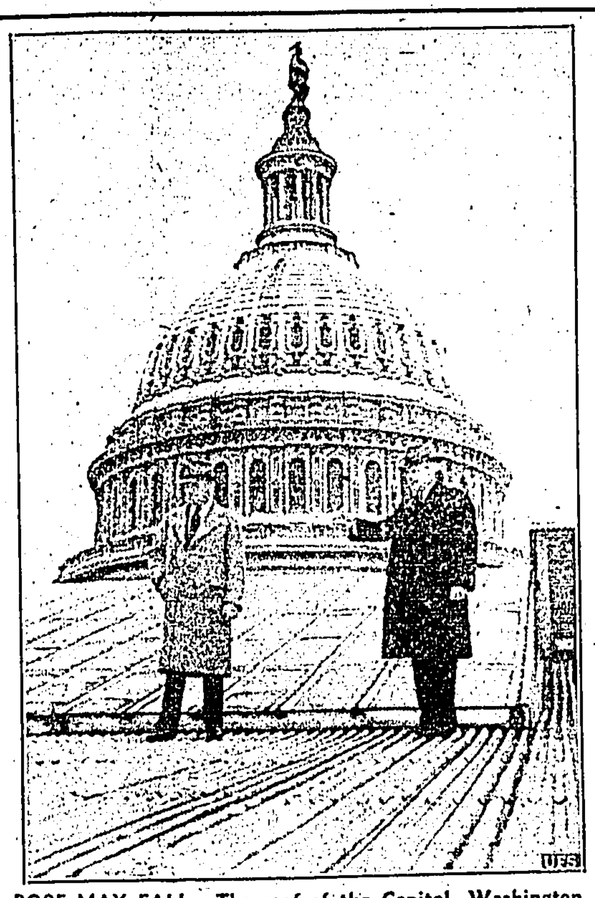
The Beaufort is the most versatile twin-engined aircraft in the world. It is used for bombing, torpedo bombing, reconnaissance and general purpose duties. Much of its performance is still "hush hush", but its top speed is considerably greater than the Blenheim's 295 m.p.h.

There are other types, too all of which incorporate the principles of British thoroughness and "honesty" in construction. Development is continuous, for Britain does not stand still, content with what she has. She realises that research must go on unendingly, and that improvement is a constant first essential of war . . . .

☆ ☆ ☆

So it is that the British pilot has the best of material to handle, and without a doubt his training is the best in the world. The most advanced and fastest training plane ever built is the Miles Master, which has been in full production for the R.A.F. for some time.

It is claimed that the design of no type of plane has advanced more quickly in the last ten years than that of this trainer, which may well be one of the main reasons for the superiority British pilots are demonstrating day after day.



ROOF MAY FALL—The roof of the Capitol, Washington, is in danger of collapsing, and architects are seen above examining the structure for projected repair work.

GERMAN AIRMAN IN SAME WARD AS VICTIMS

FEELING was aroused in a midland town because a German airman was placed in the same hospital as a number of civilians who were injured when he jettisoned his bombs after his plane was hit.

The airman was put in the same ward as some of his victims.

Relatives of the injured civilians suggest that more tact might have been shown by placing the airman in another hospital.

The airman, also, does not feel too comfortable.

Looked Scared

When he reached the hospital he asked if his bombs had caused any harm. When told that some of his victims were in the same ward as himself he looked scared.

In English, he said he was sorry for the injuries he had caused, and said he believed his bombs had fallen in a field.

It was likely that a petition will be made for the removal of the German to another hospital.

HITLER NEEDS REAL RUBBER

Rubber is a military necessity to-day. Hitler's armies do little marching; they roll along at 20, even 40 miles an hour on rubber-tyred motor-cycles, in rubber-tyred motor trucks, or fly as parachutists in aeroplanes with rubber-tyred undercarriages. A blitzkrieg without rubber is unthinkable.

Rubber does not grow many degrees above or below the Equator. So it happens that not only Germany and Italy, but also economically self-contained countries like the United States and Soviet Russia must import huge quantities from the rubber-producing lands—mostly in the Far East. The monopoly of rubber production by British and Dutch interests has certainly complicated military and industrial problems in those countries lacking this essential commodity.

For more than a generation there has been a quest for synthetic rubber. In the first instance it was necessary to pull apart chemically the natural product to find out how it was put together. It was found that raw rubber, after being heated in a retort, dripped a liquid which was named "Isoprene." Chemically analysed, isoprene turned out to be a hydrocarbon—meaning a combination of carbon and hydrogen.

Arising from these experiments with isoprene another hydrocarbon was discovered, butadiene. If this butadiene were allowed to stand long enough, or if it were heated in the presence of sodium, it would turn into a gummy mass. It was not rubber, but it had many of the properties of rubber.

The possibilities of butadiene changed the whole trend of research. Rubber itself was examined critically. It was found that rubber was unnecessarily versatile in its properties. Chemists decided that something better than natural rubber was wanted.

By Arthur Reynolds

In Germany a rubber substitute has been evolved which is known as "Buna." It is made from butadiene by a rapid process of polymerisation. At the outbreak of war about one-third of Germany's rubber requirements were met by using Buna. Undoubtedly its use must be considerably greater now, and captured German aeroplanes show its extended use. Buna is not only a substitute but as far as results are concerned, a very effective substitute.

Cost is still a barrier in the manufacture of synthetic rubber which averages not less than double the price of natural rubber. In certain directions, however, manufacturers prefer the higher-priced synthetic rubber, more satisfactory because of its resistance to heat, acids, oil and some strong chemicals.

Let there be no illusion, however, about the production of artificial rubber in Germany. Her requirements are tremendous — probably about 250,000 tons a year. Plants to meet these requirements would have to be on a vast scale, equipped with special machinery and large bodies of skilled workers employed. It is considered that a plant capable of producing 250,000 tons of synthetic rubber (Buna) annually would cost about £2,000,000. Further large sums would be involved to cover the increased cost of Buna over natural rubber.

There is little chance that natural rubber will disappear from the market. Not even the most hopeful chemist visualises this. The big rubber companies have been bringing their production costs down so that a market price of 4d. a pound is still profitable. Synthetic substitutes must compete on a utility basis, which means that they must do what natural rubber can never do.

SPARROW KILLS A V.C.

OUT in France four British soldiers were shot dead while trying to cross 400 yards of "no-man's land" to bring reinforcements to one section of the line.

Then Alfred Wilkinson volunteered to go.

By extraordinary skill he got across the country exposed to enemy fire, and delivered his message.

For doing so he was awarded the V.C.

That was in 1917.

A few days ago Wilkinson (now 48 and doing his bit in this war as a special constable) was found dead—gassed—in the laboratory at Blackershaw Colliery, Leigh, Lancashire, where he was a tester.

He had been killed by a sparrow which had lodged in a furnace pipe and caused carbon monoxide to accumulate in the laboratory.

This was revealed at the inquest, when a verdict of death by misadventure was returned.

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will be sent Home.

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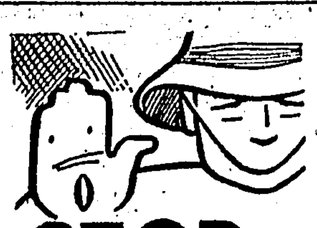
Organised by the Hongkong War Effort Committee.



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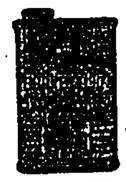

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

Tuesday, January 14, 1941.
Wyndham St., Hongkong
Telephone: 26615

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LULL IN FREE CHINA

AFTER three and a half years of war the Chungking Government can survey its position with some satisfaction, not unmingled with bright hopes for the future. With the goodwill of most of the world on her side and with considerable assets and potential assets forthcoming from the democracies and Russia, Free China has tremendous resources to add to the treasure she has found in the pacific west.

The terrific bombardments of Japanese aviators have failed to dislodge the Government from what seems to be its last stronghold; the morale of the civilian population has withstood the harrowing experiences of rape and pillage, wholesale slaughter and fifth columnist subterfuge; the army is strong and well trained; the air force is being reborn, and the industrial life of the country is settling down into co-ordinated paths from which will emerge a regulated economy to offset the unsettled turmoil of the vast "no man's land."

The absence of large scale warfare of recent months has encouraged a slackening off in the martial intensity that prevailed throughout the first three years. Japan has other fields to explore and both sides have felt the impact of the European conflict.

The danger to China is that she may be lulled into a false complacency; hoping that hostilities may tail off into a mere standing on guard, she may grow weary of war preparation—as well she might after the heroic struggle she has already put up.

Battles are not won by retreating, however. A great Chinese offensive is the last thing that the Japanese would care to face during the next few months and such an event might well force them to reasonable peace terms to free their hands elsewhere. China must look after her own fate and if she could persuade the Japanese troops to evacuate the mainland she would have a solid basis for future prosperity which neither Britain nor America would grudge her. By voluntarily accepting the stalemate which has now been reached, Chungking also risks moral disintegration by removing the object round which the regeneration of China is focussed. She must fight or make peace. The Chinese cannot be kept for ever in a state of pent-up patriotism unless the effort to win the war is sustained.

There is also the question of the vast funds made available to Chungking by the Democracies. China should learn how and by whom the money is being spent. The recent outbreak of rice hoarding, the artificial prices of luxuries in the Free capital, the life of ease which many wealthy Chinese are living in Hongkong, are all retarding influences on the steady upward gradient which Chiang Kai-shek has pursued. So far the signs are not too serious; they can be checked. But something is needed to divert the Chinese away from the dangerous suggestion that the war is as good as won because China is now morally aligned with the Democracies and because Japan is allowing her attention to wander.

Now indeed is the time for China to rally her people for a great drive and one which may, happily, prove the last effort necessary to achieve her aim—to rule her own people and country under one flag.

Among the Germans — in — Occupied Brussels

This article comes from a Correspondent who, after five years' residence in France, left Paris in June, tramped to Bordeaux, then returned to the occupied capital for a short stay, and at last, finding his way to Brussels, remained there during August and early September.

The first leaves are falling as I sit in the park opposite the Royal Castle in Brussels before my departure in the second week of September. Children are playing round the big pond, which brings up memories of the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris. Toy boats sail across the dark waters and young voices fill the air as the children laugh and shout. From the main entrance on the other side of the park comes the faint sound of trams and motor cars. You cannot hear the tramp of German army boots here, but you know it is there on the pavements.

Barbed wire shuts off the centre of the park, and German sentries guard the wireless station which has been put up there next the children's playground among green lawns and flower beds.

On one side of the park flies the swastika flag over the Royal Palace; on the other side, the street as well as the courtyards, halls, rooms, and corridors of the former Parliament and Government buildings swarms with German soldiers, for all these premises have been taken over by the invaders.

The uniforms are manifold in colour and design, dark green, light green, dark grey, light grey, many shades of browns and blues, mixtures of black and brown, black and white, and other combinations. All are adorned with some kind of weapon, a rifle or revolver or a rather ridiculous looking sort of dagger dangling at the hip. For these the Belgians have their own facetious pet name.

Some nine-tenths of the German military here walk about in high black boots, which are worn even by the railway officials.

Tramp, Tramp, Tramp

Brussels is full of these boots. You cannot forget them. If you close your eyes the sound of their tramp haunts you, be it by day or at any hour of the night. And as accompaniments to the perpetual tramp, tramp, tramp, you hear the sharp shouts and commands of the men who wear them, the noise of their innumerable motors, carts, tanks, trucks, motor-cycles, buses, and overhead the roar of aeroplane engines. There is no escape, for if you go into a restaurant or shop, especially a food shop, any hotel or bar, boulevard or square, the scene is everywhere dominated by men and women in German uniforms.

Their names are perplexingly numerous. Besides the *Deutsche Wehrmachtangehorige* (the military proper) there are members of the *Arbeitsdienst, Technische Nothilfe, Arbeitsorganisation Todt, Streifendienst, Nationalsozialistische Volkswohlfahrt, Hitlerjugend*, various kinds of Civil servants now in military uniform, bank clerks, transport officials, *Kraft durch Freude* men and women, and the Gestapo.

But the striking thing about these hundreds and thousands of soldiers and semi-soldiers, ranging from youths to grey-headed men, girls, nurses, and what not, is that they do not live up to the creed imposed on the super-racial citizens of glorious and victorious Great Germany or maintain the dignity which their citizenship enjoins. They are certainly in the main tired, war-weary, and demoralised to a high degree.

This statement is not based on wishful thinking but on actual observation and first-hand experience. Intimate and unconstrained contact with German soldiers, officials, and women in Belgium to-day, makes the propaganda to which we have been subjected, the official bulletins and newspapers we have read both in German and in French, seem unreal. Rarely, indeed scarcely ever, can you hear among the many German uniforms in Belgium any of the the high-flown phrases about victory, greatness, and invincibility. On the contrary, the Germans in Belgium betray a surprising lack of faith in the propaganda of their Government.

Only yesterday I heard a German officer say quietly that he thought the Germans would find it impossible to invade and defeat England. "Our people do not know the English," he explained, "but I have spent many years among them in their country."

Sick and Tired

German soldiers in Belgium are frequently heard to declare they detest this war, that they are sick and tired of it and want to go home. At first one can scarcely believe one's ears and wonders whether it is not some sort of trap or astute new form of propaganda, but that idea soon passes and the conviction is formed that the "victorious" German soldiers are seriously demoralized. At the slightest inducement, and often without, they will produce photographs of their wives, children, dogs, or other pets, and talk at length about the bombing of their home towns, the permanent dangers in which their families live while they themselves are or seem to be in relative security marking time. Encourage these sentimental bullies to talk about letters from home and you soon feel you have them on the verge of tears.

So far as can be judged, most of the soldiers now in Brussels have been some two years in arms. If asked about the end of the war they generally shrug their shoulders and show no pleasure in the prospect of the future. They certainly criticize the occupation of Denmark and Norway, and they wonder what they are doing in Belgium, "which will never become German, anyway."

They do not want to fight, they can easily be induced to profess that they personally have no great sympathy for the Nazi Government, they obviously have no firm faith in ultimate victory, and the view can often be heard that, "if we do not succeed with our invasion of England in the course of September—and we shall probably not succeed; though we still hope, of course—we shall never win this war." Without any inducement they now occasionally add, "And that means revolution."

We know German and Germans sufficiently to remember some of their re-actions, how cruelty and sentimentality are typical features of their character. A man who does not hesitate to machine-gun women and children will sit down and cry, yes, actually shed tears, at the though of his pet canary being killed by a cat. They are decidedly in sentimental mood to-day. For they are not used to suffering directly as a people during war. The bombing of Berlin and Hamburg is making them tearful. Yet I am convinced it is not only this which has turned their stomach against this war: they are just sick of it for no particular reason and most of them are not Nazis at heart.

In The Grip Of Terror

True as this may be of the Germans in Brussels, it would be too much to conclude that their weariness, disgust, or general disapproval are enough to bring them to open revolt. It may seem madness, it surely is some form of madness, but these people are in the grip of terror, terrified to death, and will never find strength and will power of themselves to oppose their Nazi leaders.

The Belgians, who clearly realize the obvious demoralization of the German troops in their country, are equally convinced of their powerlessness to take any sort of revolutionary initiative.

A Belgian workman put the case in a nutshell the other day when he said, "They tell us they detest the war and want to go home, but they are here all the same. That is all that really counts." He added, with the air of a conspirator, "But you wait and see. In 1918 we let them all go home. This time not one of them who lingers shall leave the country: there is room for all of them in the canal."

The attitude of the Belgians towards the invader is clear, and the Flemish people also appear not so delighted as the Nazi Government would have the world believe. It seems now that, faced with the Germans, they are all really Belgians and their mutual antagonisms fade at the prospect of having the country carved into bits. The people of Belgium feel now that the have been defeated by treachery. They have no one clear idea as to who has brought them to their present plight, but all in Belgium know to-day that it is not the English who have betrayed them, though the Germans have sought to propagate this conception.

It is touching and curious to observe how they contrive to spread the news of the B.B.C. They listen where and when they can, in spite of the heavy penalty prescribed by the Germans. Servants, waiters, tram conductors, indeed everybody, does his best to pass choice items along as fast as possible, and all listen with delight for the sound of British aeroplanes which come after dusk to bomb the Germans in their midst.

"Britannique" Wins

In spite of the thorough German militarization, or perhaps because of it, the Belgians show their real sentiments whenever they have an opportunity. On September 1 there were horse races near Brussels, and among the horses was one called Britannique. Nobody seemed to know anything about this horse, but it seemed that everybody was backing it to win. Well, as Chesterton says, the curious thing about miracles is that they sometimes happen. And a miracle happened that day: the dark horse Britannique came in first, and the crowd lost all restraint, laughing, roaring, shouting "Britannique," clapping one another on the back, and acting as if they had not merely won money but had received a welcome sign from Heaven.

The Germans in Belgium are over-organized and therefore inefficient, as many of the numerous departments often work against one another, wittingly or unwittingly, and cancel out. The highest authorities are sometimes quite ignorant of important things done within their province.

Belgian Whispers

Living in Belgium you feel there is something in the German machine that does not work as smoothly as it should. There appear to be two distinct features, the military and the economic, which are often out of gear. When economic plans break down the military take charge. In spite of the demoralized temper of the troops, the military machine still works through inertia with tolerable efficiency, and it would be wrong to regard the soldiers as on the road to an early revolution.

It is often said, and with apparent truth, that nine-tenths of all Germans are out of sympathy with their Nazi masters, but if this is really so they are the passive nine-tenths, who will not of themselves rise in active revolt against the active one-tenth. But there is another possibility, which some competent observers incline to regard even as a probability.

The stunned spirit of the Belgians has largely recovered, and the word "revolution" is often whispered. It was heard now and then as far back as August, but only in a vague and dreamy way. But the economic spoliation of the country which has not yet reduced the people to the apathy following long and gradual starvation has aroused intense resentment.

For the moment only the spirit of revolt is there, ready to take shape if practical opportunity should arise. At the beginning of September the good old *La Libre Belgique* appeared again on the scene. It is believed that, when the moment is ripe and active revolt becomes a fact in France or any other occupied country, it will rapidly spread to all certainly to Belgium.

The movement, if movement it may be called, appears for the present at least to have little or no taint of Bolshevism, for Communists and Nazis are lumped together in the minds of most citizens of Belgium and looked upon as traitors. The only tangible thing in the goal towards which minds tend is the liberation of Belgium from foreign domination.

The problem of King Leopold is not often raised. It is difficult at present to say definitely how the King stands with his people in Belgium. Something akin to incipient propaganda for *Leopold, le Roi Humain* is afoot and many people wear a tiny gift crown in their buttonhole as a symbol of adhesion to his cause. The King appears to be in some sort of conflict with the Germans, though no trustworthy information is available on the nature of their disagreements. He is more or less a prisoner, and while this fact and the belief that he is causing the Germans difficulties tend to improve his position, he is still far from enjoying the affection of the whole of the Belgian people.

Women Smokers More Careless

WATERBURY, Conn. (UP).—Women shoppers who smoke, and not men, create fire hazards in department stores, according to the city fire board.

The board voted to ask for an ordinance forbidding smoking in department stores. Members said men rarely smoke while shopping, but women do, and drop ashes near inflammable materials.

NANCY

By Ernie Bushmiller

Engineer Fails To Go To Sea With His Ship

Summoned for neglecting to proceed to sea in his ship on December 18, A. V. Frain, Second Engineer, was found guilty by Comdr J. Jolly at the Marine Court yesterday, and ordered to forfeit out of his wages a sum equal to two days' pay.

Mr W. M. Brown appeared for complainant, Captain Lionel McRae, master of the ship, and said Frain signed articles as Second Engineer on November 19 for a period of six months. The ship returned from Shanghai on December 15, and orders were handed to the Chief Engineer for the ship to have steam up to proceed to sea at 11 a.m. on December 18. These written orders were handed to Frain by the Chief Engineer.

On December 17, Frain accompanied by Capt McRae, went ashore to the Indo-China Steam Navigation Offices, where there was a question of Frain signing off. It was eventually decided that Frain was to continue on the ship's articles until the end of six months and Frain was informed of this by Mr Lawson, the Marine Superintendent, that day. Frain was later seen having dinner on board the ship that evening, and that was the last time he was seen on board. At about 10.50 a.m. on December 18, Capt McRae boarded the ship, and was told by the Chief Engineer that Frain was not on board. The ship waited until 11.02 a.m. for Frain to appear and sailed with a supplementary engineer on board. Frain's gear was sent ashore in the agent's launch.

Captain's Evidence

Evidence was given by Capt McRae, who said the ship sailed without Frain at 11.02 a.m.

"I do not wish to treat defendant's absence as desertion," he added.

Corroborative evidence was given by Mr R. B. Robertson, Chief Engineer, and Mr J. Lawson.

Defendant said his services were dispensed with by Jardine, Matheson through Mr Lawson on the night of December 17. He went to see Mr Tod, the shipping manager, who said: "Call back at 5 p.m. I shall enquire into this." On returning at 5 p.m. he was told by Mr Lawson to return to the ship. He did so, and before leaving the ship that night, told the Third Engineer to set the watches for 8 a.m. the next morning as instructed by the Chief Engineer.

While leaving for the ship in a motor-boat the next morning, continued Frain, he saw the ship unmooring, and chased after it as far as the boom defences, but missed her. He later suspected that his watch was at fault.

Cross-examined by Mr Brown, Frain said he left for the ship at 10.40 a.m. that morning. He admitted that he had "cut it a little fine."

On being found guilty by Comdr Jolly, Mr Brown said he had been asked to press the case as it was undesirable for an engineer to be late, especially during wartime.

Defendant told the Magistrate that it had never happened to him before, and he was sure it would not happen again. He added that he had been offered a berth on two ships which were at present in Shanghai.

Bomber Fund Raffle Sale

The Hongkong War Effort Committee has been fortunate in securing the voluntary services of Mr S. A. Seth in connection with the Monster Raffle now being organised in aid of the Bomber Fund. Mr Seth, who is a chartered secretary well known throughout the Far East generally, will supervise the issuing of tickets and the accounting work. The office previously used by the Hongkong Travel Bureau on the Star Ferry Wharf, Connaught Road, has been placed at the disposal of the Committee by the Hongkong Wharf and Godown Company, and tickets will only be issued to sellers, Clubs, etc., from this centre.

There is a considerable amount of preliminary work to be completed before tickets will be offered to the public, both with regard to the printing of the tickets, account books and other necessary items, and in the preparation of the prize list. Many firms have come forward and offered valuable prizes in addition to the Sunbeam-Talbot Sports Car given by Messrs Gilman & Co., Ltd., and it is hoped to publish an advance list within the next few days.

KIDNAPPED COMPRADORE

Shanghai, Jan. 13.

The kidnapping of Mr Pan Chi-chuan, 42, better known as T. C. Pan Compradore of Jardine Matheson Co., is believed to be largely for ransom. A native of Chungshan, Mr. Pan is once an undergraduate of Hongkong University.—*International.*

MUSSOLINI TRIES NEW GENERAL

ROME, Jan. 18 (UP).—It was officially announced to-day that General Soddu had resigned as Commander of the Troops in Albania for reasons of health. He was being replaced by General Ugo Cavallero.

"British Wireless" adds that General Soddu is 57 years old and was Under-Secretary of State for War in 1939. He was appointed Commander in Albania as recently as November 11.

Mussolini Lacks Leaders

ROME, Jan. 13 (Reuter Bulletin).—General Cavallero, who succeeds General Soddu, is Italian Chief of Staff and succeeded General Badoglio in that office in December. His appointment means that the highest Italian General Staff officer has taken personal charge of the Albanian campaign and that Mussolini has a shortage of military leaders. A number resigned at the end of last year and some have been captured in North Africa.

Chinese Aid Bomber Fund

In response to the appeal which appeared recently over the signatures of the Chinese members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, the Hon. Mr M. K. Lo has sent donations totalling $2,000 being contributions from Chinese members of the community, to the Bomber Fund.

Following suggestions received that old gold and silverware should be melted down and the proceeds donated to the Bomber Fund, the following firms have consented to act, free of any charge, as receiving and disposal depots:—Messrs Lane, Crawford, Ltd., Sennet Freres, and J. Ullmann & Company. Lists of donors and articles contributed will be published in the *South China Morning Posts* and *Hongkong Telegraph* on Mondays.

In this connection, nine medallions have been received from Mr A. E. Manwaring, and nine cups, five medals and two spoons from Mr B. V. Hutchinson.

A total of $1,540,965.19 was reached yesterday by the War Fund inaugurated by the S. C. M. Post, Ltd., with the following donations:

"Toss the Coin"—Yeung	$ 5
Mr C. W. E. Bishop (third (donation)	200
Harbour Office Nickels and Dimes (weekly donation)	2.20
"Bridges"	25
Lhombre Evening (second donation)	15
"Stung"	2
"In memory of the late Mr J. P. A. Davidson"	50
Volunteer	40
Mr L. A. Starling (monthly donation)	50
Mr E. P. Streatfield (monthly donation)	30
Mingsang Shrapnel Box (second donation)	22
Irene	200
A. H. K.	25
Cheero Club (sale of old tins, etc.)	7
Mr Lai Chun (second donation)	3
"Dollar Bet"	1
Bowls Match at K.B.G.C.: Sergeants	40
Bowlers	25
Springer Spaniel Puppy Fund	10
Central Police Station Canteen Cent Box (fifth donation)	30
M. C. S. T. Shrapnel Box (fourth donation)	33.54
Treasury "Shrapnel Box" (week ended 11.1.41)	4.30
Hon. Mr M. K. Lo (second donation)	200
Mr M. W. Lo (second donation)	100
Mr H. G. Leong	100
Mr Chan Hon-chee of Messrs Him Yuen	500
Messrs Leo Cheong-woo	200
Messrs Mow Fung-tai Kee	500
Siu Suk-lim	100
Messrs Mow Tai	200
Mr Tang Hoi	100
Mr M. K. Lo (second donation)	500
"A wet Sunday at Shek O"	45

THE B. W. O. F.

The following is a list of subscriptions received to date for credit of the British War Organisation Fund, Hongkong Branch:

Previously acknowledged, $100 and $625,348.60.

Miss Grace Ezra, $15; J. S. Dunnett (monthly), $20; the American Club (Result from raffle held on New Year's Eve), $200; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs Iranee, $1; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs E. C. Ritchie, $1; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs Colledge, $1; Francois d'Hardivilliers, $500; G. Frost, $10; Mr and Mrs R. L. Wyllie, $25; Capt. I. J. Lomius (December), $20; D. G. Day (monthly), 15; A. H. Guinness (monthly), $20; Wu Lai Tak, $152.50; A. M. Kennedy (monthly), $30; Mr and Mrs S. H. Dodwell (3rd. donation), $500; China New Guinea Mercantile Co. $50. Total $626,909.40.

LONG TRIP—Soldiers from Dominion of Canada's far western provinces are included in these troops of Second Division leaving train at East Coast port to embark for England.

COST OF LIVING IN MOSCOW JUMPS UP

In Moscow during the past year the cost of living has risen over 80 per cent. Wages are being squeezed by a tightening up of piece-rates and by a general cancellation of ways and means of earning money on the side, writes a correspondent.

Moreover, under a return to the eight-hour day (a 10-hour day is rumoured for the new year) and the two-shift system, great numbers of lower-grade workers are being turned off.

Under the local passport system many of these will be sent back to the villages. Those allowed to remain in cities will reduce the average family pay-roll.

For the first time in many years Moscow shops offer and even advertise "improved quality goods" at new fabulous prices without a rush of buyers. The provinces are said to be as empty as ever.

Hardest hit of all are the students class. Until October 3 there were 600,000 of them. Now they are melting away on the look-out for jobs.

Most of them depended on scholarships, which in some cases reached 500 roubles monthly. In future only a limited number of "perfect" students will get scholarships.

The rest of this penniless horde are now ordered to pay 400 roubles annually (in musical and art schools 500) as from September 1 last. This applies even to those in their fifth year.

Blow to Soviet Youth

Simultaneously dormitory fees have been raised from 7½ to 45 roubles per month. In some provincial universities and technical schools four-fifths of the students are leaving. Pupils in secondary school classes must also pay 200 roubles annually.

Instead, the Soviet will conscript boys from 14 to 17 to the tune of 800,000 to 1,000,000 annually for labour schools, where they will learn manual trades and railway work. Afterwards they will be sent on four years' compulsory, paid work in any part of the Soviet Union.

This harsh measure, tearing up by the root the citizen's right to education, guaranteed by the Constitution, was probably necessary, owing to the burden of armament and the dearth of skilled labour, but it seems doubtful whether the Kremlin realised the earthquake it would cause among Soviet Youth.

Good Harvest

The Russian harvest—the best since 1937—amounts to about 90,000,000 tons, as against 75,000,000 last year.

In a Europe where most harvests have been poor this is an important fact, because the Soviet will certainly make a great effort to supply her powerful neighbour Germany, having no excuse not to do so. Rail transport, as inadequate as ever, will, however, limit this supply.

The Russian bread harvest ought to have been bigger still, but wastage between ear and barn or elevator, due largely to the apathy of underfed peasants, was huge. On an average year it is 20 per cent., but this time it was certainly greater, although there was no lack of tractor fuel.

In Northern and Central Russia the potato crop is also enormous, but loss from rot and frost is likley to be big. The authorities, wisely not trusting village storage, rush the potatoes into the town and dump them into damp or frosty cellars.

State Seizes Crops

The sugar beet crop, again bigger than 1939, was late, and from one-third to one-half of it was still lying out on the fields at the beginning of October.

Spurred on by the new law requisitioning the State's share, not of what actually was, but might have been sown and harvested, the collectivised peasants got in most of the grain, but show some indifference to industrial crops. Like sugar beet, cotton is also behind.

Fruit is scarcer than ever, partly owing to a hard winter, but also because the peasants were scared by the new taxes on their private strips of garden and orchard.

The squeeze to force the collectivised peasants, man and wife, to give more time to the common field and less to their own plots is being increased. This coming year there will be enough bread at the present medium price for everybody, or nearly everybody, but hardship over everything else.

James Joyce Passes On

Zurich, Jan. 13.

James Joyce, the Irish author who wrote several books in a style of English peculiar to himself, died here to-day following an operation. He failed to rally after two blood transfusions. His son was at his bedside when he died but his wife and grandson, who are also in Zurich, were not present.

Funeral arrangements have not been made but it is possible Joyce will be buried in Zurich, where he had lived for several years, as it would be most difficult to take the body to Eire.—*United Press.*

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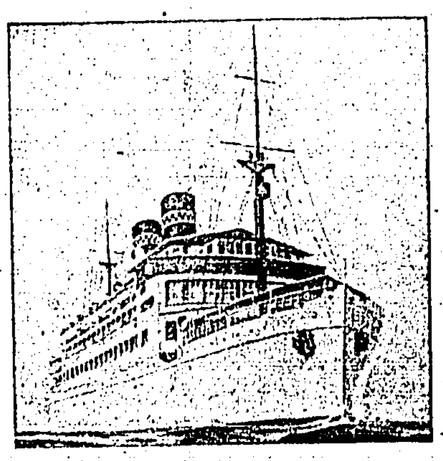

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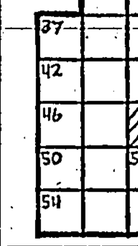

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Crossword Puzzle

By LARS MORRIS

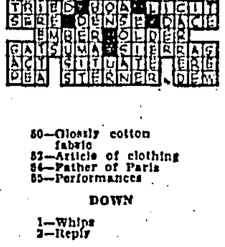
ACROSS

1—Stringed instrument
6—From then till now
11—Terminating
13—Recently conquered European nation
14—In the manner
15—Servants
17—For example (abbr.)
18—Couple
20—Wireless receiving set
21—Madame (abbr.)
22—Transmit
24—2,000 pounds
25—Arabian magistrate
26—Attack
28—Primate mammals
30—Screen
32—Obligation
33—Stops
35—Steering strap for horse
37—Lofty
38—At suit of (abbr.)
40—German industrial region
42—Combining form: goose
43—Child's playing-marble
45—Greek island
46—Advertisement
47—Duties paid on landed goods
49—French article
50—Glossy cotton fabric
52—Article of clothing
54—Father of Paris
55—Performances

DOWN

1—Whips
2—Reply
3—Western state (abbr.)
4—James
5—An effectual one (slang)
6—All alone
7—They (French)
8—North America (abbr.)
9—Shin-bone
10—Provided with sharp edge
12—Small insect
13—Ached
16—Worshiped image
19—Medieval military engines
21—Inhabitant of Mars
23—Boiled
25—Solids with square sides
27—Forming tool
29—Meridian (abbr.)
31—Fabled creature
33—East Indian cedar tree
34—Center of solar system
36—Fastened with nails
37—Eager
39—Male deer
41—Utters loud cry
43—Exclamation
44—Minced oath
47—Large body of water
48—Preceding
51—Note of scale
53—Tellurium

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



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SS "President Grant"	MAR.	23
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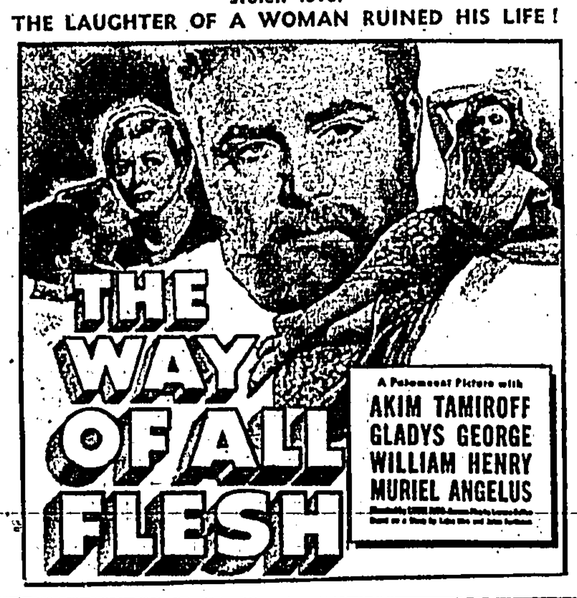

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HOW DESERT VICTORY WAS WON

STORMING OF SIDI BARRANI DESCRIBED

The capture of Sidi Barrani, which was the first signal success in the British drive against the Italians in the Western Desert, is fully described in a press dispatch just received in the Colony. Writing from Sidi Barrani itself, the correspondent says that troops which took the place were a British brigade of an Indian division which had been rushed to the spot on the previous day. The correspondent says:—

The British drive from Mersa Matruh to the Egyptian frontier will no doubt go down to history as the Battle of Sidi Barrani. In this series of engagements, which lasted four days, the fighting round Sidi Barrani itself was undoubtedly the stiffest. Here four Blackshirt divisions put up what is admitted by their opponents to have been a very stout defence. General Gallina, commanding the 23rd Corps, was personally in command and the morning after the surrender this elderly officer asked permission to address his troops. In a dignified and touching speech he thanked them for having fought as Fascists.

The troops which took Sidi Barrani were a British brigade of an Indian division which had been rushed to Nibeiwa and Tummar on the previous day. They were materially assisted by an armoured brigade which already had pushed forward behind the Italian positions and reached the coast between Sidi Barrani and Buqbuq, thus practically cutting off the Blackshirt division's retreat.

After bivouacking in the desert the three battalions advanced at dawn over the few remaining miles, a South Country battalion of the left, Highlanders in the centre, and Midlanders on the right.

About two miles south of the village they came under fire from the defences. Going in to the attack, our men found the Italians well posted in a strongly entrenched position, protected by well-sighted machine-guns, against which it was difficult to advance without heavy loss.

The help of tanks and artillery was called in. Tanks of the armoured brigade were the handiest for the leftward battalion, while guns succeeded at first in easing the way for the Midlanders on the right. These two battalions were consequently able to get forward first.

A Hail of Bullets

About two o'clock the officer commanding the Highlanders, hearing that the other two battalions were making progress on the flanks, decided to take the bull by the horns, and ordered his men to rush the position. They took their cue with a fine resolution, and, working forward under a hail of bullets from enfilading machineguns, got in among the Blackshirts with the bayonet. In a few minutes of close fighting the trench line was carried, and, advancing to the crest of the ridge behind it, the Highlanders were met by the welcome sight of the white-walled houses of the village close in front of them, with the sea behind.

By five o'clock Sidi Barrani was taken, the Blackshirts surrendering in groups as they found themselves penned in by the tanks and men of all three battalions pouring in from all sides. The last phases of the fight took place in an eddying sandstorm, which limited visibility to 200 yards.

The infantry are full of gratitude for the work of the Air Force, which successfully subdued the activity of the enemy's aircraft, so that the troops had to suffer from dive-bombing only five or six times in the course of the day.

Captured Base Visited

After a visit to the entrenched camps at Nibeiwa, Tummar, and Sidi Barrani, my first main impression is of the skill and the fighting qualities which enabled the British force to roll up in a few days an enemy force more than twice as numerous and strongly entrenched; my second impression is of the immense mass of material which the Italians had accumulated in these advanced bases for the invasion of Egypt, and which has now fallen into our hands, for the most part undamaged.

Nibeiwa, the first position to have been carried, is a camp covering a bare plateau about a mile square with a shallow valley in front. The whole position is surrounded by a double stone wall, with shelters every 50 yards for the Libyans who lined the perimeter. To the east and south it was further strengthened by anti-tank obstacles, barbed wire, and land mines. Dotted about the interior were the armaments of General Maletti's column.

The place presented an extraordinary sight, stiff with vehicles of every sort, from giant Diesel-driven 10-ton tanks to staff cars—although by the time I reached the camp most of the immediately serviceable lorries and trucks had been requisitioned for the evacuation of prisoners. Here and there troops and transport mules wandered disconsolate, and in one corner I found a sheep suckling baby lambs. Immense quantities of stores, both of food and of mechanical equipment, were stacked in tents or in the open.

Three Smaller Camps

A short way north of Nibeiwa lies a group of three camps, each somewhat smaller than Nibeiwa—namely, Habsa (otherwise known as Point 90), Tummar East and Tummar West. The troops which had taken Nibeiwa went on and captured first Tummar East, then Tummar West. Both were in our hands by Monday evening. Here, too, the action was short and sharp.

Twelve tanks, which were attached to the second Alpine division, attempted to counter-attack without success. In both engagements our casualties were remarkably small considering the results achieved. No attempt was made to assault Habsa, which was now isolated. On the morning a message was dropped into the camp informing the garrison that both Tummars had been captured, and inviting them to surrender. No answer was received, but when Indian troops advanced to attack white flags promptly went up.

As I proceeded from Tummar to Sidi Barrani the whole of a belt 10 miles wide between them appeared to be one vast munitions park. Every few hundred yards were dumps of oil fuel and other munitions. Thousands upon thousands of rounds were collected here. Prisoners declare that an advance to the Nile was expected during the coming weeks. The immense accumulation of stores which our troops found in all these camps and in the distributing centre of Buqbuq fully bears this out.

Italy Again Changes War Chief

CAVALLERO FOR ALBANIA

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—General Soddu has had little military experience although he was Vice-Chief of Staff under Marshal Graziani from June to November last year.

His two months in Albania have been one long series of defeats. At no point have the forces under his command made a stand against the Greeks and he has been outmanoeuvred on every hand by the strategy of General Metaxas and General Papagos. General Cavallero, his successor, is an experienced man and was Chief of Operations during the last war. He was made Under-Secretary for War when Mussolini came into power and he was called on to fill Marshal Badoglio's place when the latter vacated office in December.

Soddu's resignation is yet another in a long series. On December 11 Marshal Badoglio resigned, reportedly because he was disgusted at the way Mussolini had entered the war without adequate preparation and against the wish of most Italians. A day later the general in command of the Dodecanese Islands followed suit and he was joined by the naval leaders including the Chief of Naval Staff, his deputy, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Italian fleet.

Shortage of Leaders

The fact that Mussolini has had to call on his Chief of Staff is a sign of the extreme shortage of military leaders willing to conduct Mussolini's war. In addition to those who have resigned two have met their death and almost a dozen have been taken prisoner.

At the same time the Italian military situation goes from bad to worse. When General Cavallero reaches Albania he will find a Greek offensive in full swing in the central sector with Tepelini in a bad way.

The Greeks are still making gains beyond Klisuri and one correspondent calls it the biggest Greek offensive of the war.

The Italians are losing prisoners by the hour while Greek artillery is keeping up an intensive fire. The eight inches of snow which fell recently turned into six inches of mud over the week-end and more snow is falling.

Important Advance

The Greek advance is not great in distance but London circles say that it is a very important one. They have got behind Klisuri and are well on the road to Berat so that Italian lateral lines of communication are now 30 miles further north.

Tepelini is in an awkward position but is not entirely lost and part of a new Italian division has been sent there.

General Cavallero will have to provide better leadership than Soddu did if the Italians are to retain the town. Among his war trophies General Cavallero will find 1,500 hostages.

An Athens message says that the list of civilians issued on Sunday night does not represent the full total. It is impossible to say what the Italians intend to do with these civilians who include women. The taking of these hostages violates all the principles of international law and humanity and the advantage the Italians hope to gain is completely obscure.

EGG SURVIVES CRASH

Wayne Long, of Cambria, Illinois, was crossing the street with an egg in his pocket. A car hit him, broke one ankle, left the egg unbroken.

Aid To Britain Bill Obstacle Removed

FROM PAGE ONE

Bill which would limit President Roosevelt's authority to two years, and restrict loans to members of the Commonwealth and Ireland.

Mr Simpson said that he had conferred with Mr Wendell Willkie before introducing the Bill, but he declined to elaborate on this statement.

The Bill is offered as an amendment and also provides that other nations included in the original Bill have to be named by a concurrent resolution of Congress.

Investment Trust Parleys

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Henry Morgenthau, United States Secretary of Treasury, disclosed to-day that the British Government is negotiating with large groups of American investment trusts for the sale of British investments in the United States.

Mr Morgenthau said, "One very large group of investment trusts has made one offer and another group will make an offer to-morrow." He added that Sir Frederick Phillips, the British Treasury representative now in Washington, had informed him that the British Government was "ready to do business with them."

Mr Morgenthau said that he could not estimate the amount of securities that might be involved or disclose the identity of the companies which might buy them.

The British were encountering no great difficulty in selling American securities regularly traded on organized exchanges.

The Federal Board recently placed the value of these investments at $850,000,000.

Time Limit

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The suggestion of a possible attempt to impose a time limit on the powers given to President Roosevelt under the Aid for Britain Bill was made at a press conference held by Mr Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives, to-day.

Mr. Rayburn said that he would not oppose the imposition of a time limit provided that the limit "ran concurrently with the emergency."

Wendell Willkie

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Wendell Willkie's support of the "Lease and Lend Bill" which has been heartily welcomed by the Administration and most Democrats may determine his future position and influence in the Republican Party.

Certainly his statement has caused a split in the Party and it remains to be seen whether he can carry the majority of the Republicans with him or whether they will go over to the Landon-Hoover group.

Mr Willkie gets considerable support in the press. The staunchly Republican "Baltimore Sun" comments that he has risen above partisanship in advocating the general principle of the Bill and asking for safeguards to ensure reversion to the people the powers that the Bill delegates to the President.

ITALIAN FORCE CUT OFF

FROM PAGE ONE

The British casualties were very small.

Oasis Bombing

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The retreat of the Italians from Bardia jeopardised the force in the oasis. A few days ago the R.A.F. bombed Italian convoys north-west of Jarabub, but it was not stated whether these were withdrawing from the oasis or were attempting to relieve the troops there.

The strength of the besieged forces is not known.

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Its position is also more difficult than at Bardia as the outer perimeter defences straddle a broader area.

LATE NEWS

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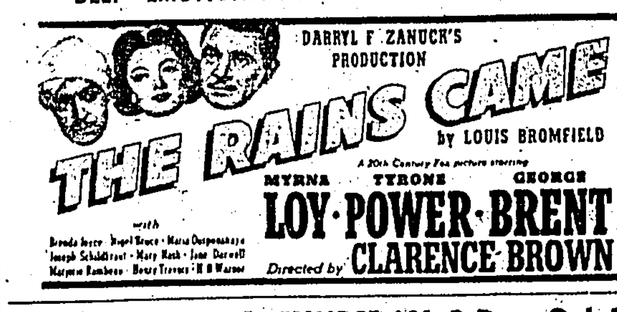

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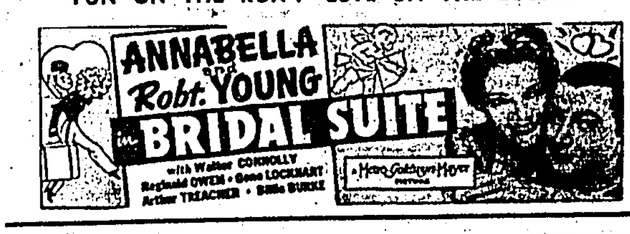

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The Hongkong Telegraph

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R.A.F. TO OUT-LUFTWAFFE GOERING'S AERIAL HORDES

Smashing Raids On Nazi Invasion Troops, Ships

Special to the "Telegraph"

LONDON, JAN. 13 (UP).—THE ROYAL AIR FORCE IS INTENSIFYING ITS RECENT PLAN TO CARRY OUT AN AIR OFFENSIVE ON GERMAN-OCCUPIED TERRITORY.

IT IS REPORTED THAT BRITISH PLANES CARRIED OUT A DAYLIGHT RAID AND ATTACKED GERMAN TROOPS IN THE COASTAL TRENCH DEFENCES, AS WELL AS STRIKING AT GERMAN SHIPPING AND THEIR GROUND DEFENCES ON SUNDAY.

AIR CIRCLES STATED THAT ONE OF THE MAIN OBJECTIVES IS THE NAZI AERODROMES FROM WHICH GERMAN NIGHT RAIDS ARE MADE.

Last Sunday was the fourth consecutive day on which the British aeroplanes swept across the Channel for daylight raids.

It is also belatedly revealed that a brief R.A.F. sweep of the French coast was carried out last Thursday.

The London "Star," in an editorial declares: "This marks another turning point in the air war. That we can now send out fighter escorts of Luftwaffe dimensions has an immense significance."

Destructive Work By R.A.F.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is officially announced that the R.A.F. last night bombed the U-boat bases at Le Havre, Brest and Lorient with "good results." The aerodromes in occupied France were also bombed.

The Air Ministry announced: "The docks at Brest were attacked with incendiary bombs and high explosives. A number of heavy bombs burst along the waterfront and fires broke out. A warehouse was set ablaze and a larger fire was started at Port Militaire.

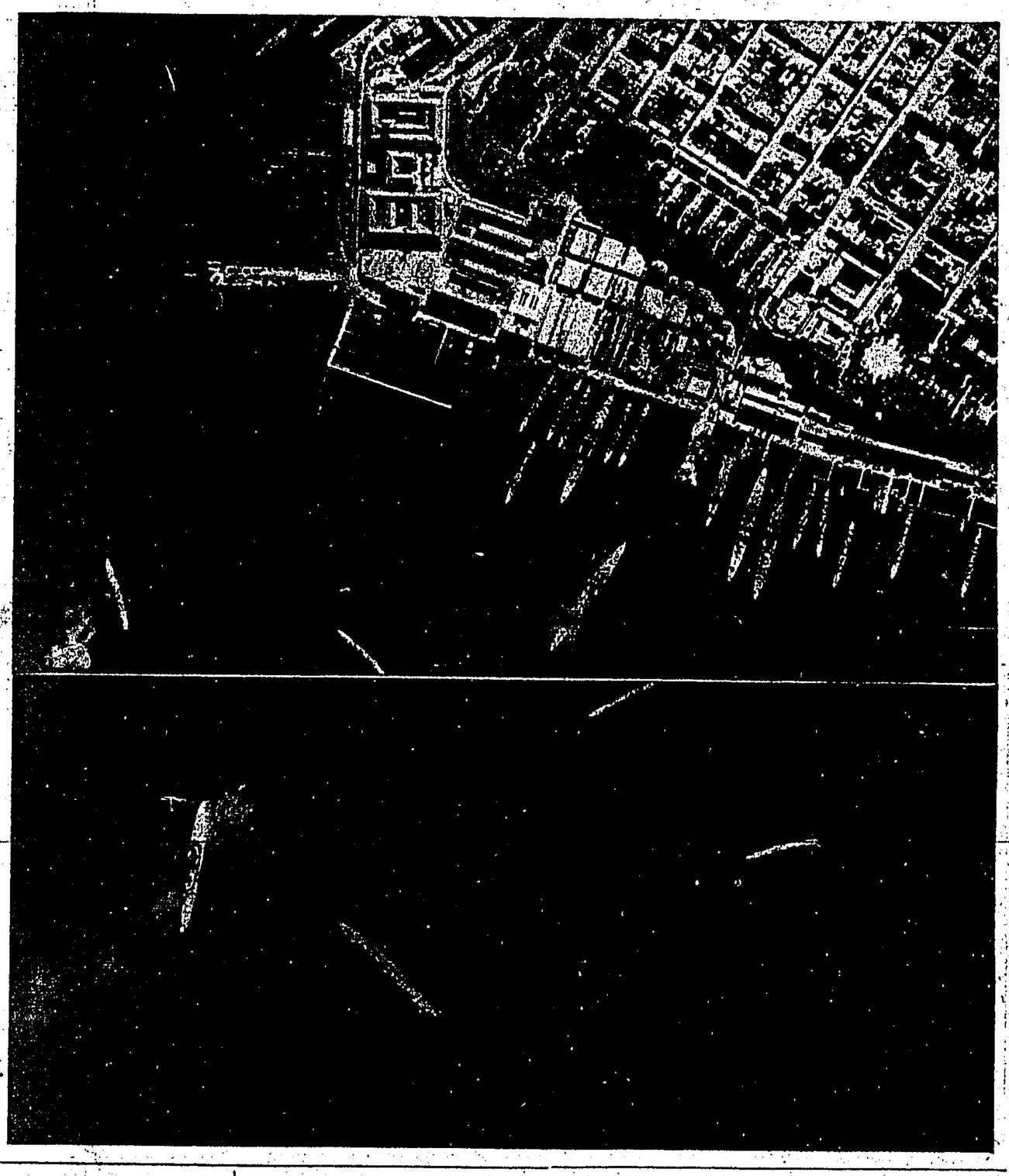
"Le Havre and Lorient were attacked with high explosives which burst on the docks. The aerodromes at Vanne, Chartres, Evereux and Morlix were attacked and aerodrome buildings were set afire. A number of aircraft on the ground at Evereux were ignited. No British planes are missing."

Raids on Italy

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is officially announced that the R.A.F. attacked and heavily damaged the oil refineries at Porto Marghere near Venice, as well as the refineries at Regentsburg in Germany, and Ostend last night.

THE FAMOUS TARANTO-RAID

This vivid photograph, the first received in Hongkong, shows two damaged Italian cruisers of the Trento Class which were hit by British warplanes when they attacked naval units in the Taranto harbour. Large quantities of oil fuel can be seen round these ships. Other Italian warships are also shown in this official R.A.F. picture.



Evacuation Test Case Opens At Supreme Court

The Hon. Mr C. G. Perdue, Acting Commissioner of Police, and Mr E. C. Luscombe, Acting Superintendent of Police, were cited as defendants in a case brought by Mrs Mabel Evelyn Blair, of 12 Broadwood Road, before the Chief Justice, Sir Atholl MacGregor, in the Supreme Court this morning, to test the legality of the evacuation order against British women and children resident in the Colony.

The writ of summons stated the plaintiff's claims to be.—

(a) for a declaration that Regulation No. 3 of Defence (Entry Restrictions) Regulations, so far as it applies to British subjects resident in the Colony, is *ultra vires*, void and of no effect;

(b) alternatively, a declaration that the defendants have no power under Regulation No. 6 (b) of the said Regulations to compel the plaintiff to leave the Colony against her will;

(c) an injunction to restrain the defendants or any police officer authorised by the first defendant from taking action against the plaintiff under the said regulations;

(d) such further or other relief as shall be just; and

(e) costs.

The Hon. Mr Leo d'Almada, Jnr, instructed by Mr E. Davidson, of Hastings and Co., appeared for the plaintiffs, and the defendants were represented by Mr H. C. Macnamara, instructed by Mr E. W. Davies, Crown Solicitor.

Opening the case, the Hon. Mr d'Almada said he would refer at some length to affidavits sworn and placed upon the file by both Mrs Blair and the Hon. Mr N. L. Smith, Colonial Secretary.

Domiciled Here

Reading from the affidavit, Mr d'Almada said that Mrs Blair was a British subject and the wife of Mr Kenneth George Blair. She had lived in the Colony for 20 years and it was her permanent domicile. On July 2, for reasons of health, she went to Manila. She would have left sooner had her health permitted. Her departure was not connected with the evacuation of British women and children, and her husband had made three applications to the Evacuation Advisory Committee for permission for her to return. This permission was refused.

In November, she decided to return without her husband's knowledge, as her health had not improved and private affairs required her urgent attention. She booked a passage on

TURN to Back Page, Column 3

GREEK SURPRISE ATTACK

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—A violent surprise attack by Greek troops has dislodged the Italians from strongly fortified positions in the central sector of the front, says the Athens radio.

Fierce hand-to-hand engagements are reported from the northern sector where the Greeks have had the advantage in bayonet fighting.

Desperate efforts by the Italians to reinforce their positions in the coastal sector north of Chimara are nullified by the spirited Greek offensive.

Rush Reinforcements

LONDON, Jan. 13. (UP).—Military quarters revealed to-day that the Italians rushed almost an entire new division into the Topelini area after the Greeks had advanced beyond Klisura.

REVENGE RAIDS

Furious Attacks By Luftwaffe

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Air Marshal Goering to-day hurled a big force of his Luftwaffe against a southwest town, showering thousands of incendiary bombs and then high explosives.

The din of the first wave of attackers was deafening and was followed by a second wave as civilians and A.R.P. workers battled the fires and struggled with the wreckage. It is feared the casualties are heavy.

A hospital was damaged. Direct hits were also scored on two surface shelters and the Congregational Church.

Raiders were over Merseyside several times and the anti-aircraft guns were in action. For the second successive night German raiders machine-gunned towns in Wales. Raiders were also reported over Liverpool.

Dr R. S. Begbie, Assistant Bacteriologist, Medical Department, reported to the Police yesterday that between November 15 and January 12 his gold wrist watch valued at $150, was stolen from his cabin aboard a British steamer.

TURKEY'S DEFENCES INSPECTED

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

ISTANBUL, Jan. 13 (UP).—General Sir James Sandyside Marshall-Cornwall and Air Vice Marshal T. W. Elmhurst, representing the Middle East Command, are due in Ankara to begin the periodical exchanges of views with the Turkish General Staff.

Admiral Sir Howard Kelly, a resident of Ankara and personal representative of Admiral Sir Andrew Cunningham, Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean Fleet, will also attend some of the talks.

The three British representatives are scheduled to tour Turkish military establishments and defence zones and it is generally believed that they plan to meet the contingency of a German offensive which is expected in one form or another in the spring, or before.

Orders Arrest Of Princess

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—The Department of Justice has ordered the arrest of Princess Stephanie Hohenlohe of Hungary on a deportation warrant. The Princess is now at San Francisco.

Italian Destroyer Sunk In Spectacular Sea Battle

Special to the "Telegraph"

A running battle between British and Italian naval units in the Mediterranean last week is revealed and described in a special message by Gratton Mcgroarty, "United Press" correspondent aboard one of the British warships engaged in the fight. The story discloses that an Italian destroyer was sunk and that afterwards the British warships for several hours warded off a concentrated air attack by Nazi warplanes.

The exclusive story follows:

Attacked From Dawn To Dusk

BY GRATTON MCGROARTY

Aboard a British warship in the Mediterranean, via Alexandria, Jan. 13 (UP).—I am filing this report at 7 o'clock on Friday (January 10). German planes made an intense attack on the British fleet in the Mediterranean to-day after British cruisers and destroyers had sunk an Italian destroyer in a spectacular running battle.

The Italian warship was sunk within cannon range of one of Mussolini's Mediterranean strongholds.

After the sea battle, German

TURN to Back Page, Column 4

Opposition To All Aid To China Proposal

Special to the "Telegraph"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Representative Simpson, in putting forward an amendment to the lend and lease plan for assistance to Britain, declared that the extension of all aid to China on the same scale as to Britain would be "an open invitation to war with Japan, and tantamount to a declaration of war."

He added: "I am not yet ready to declare war on Japan. I think Congress should carefully and separately debate such a proposal which can be considered as distinct from the proposal to give all aid to Britain."

Mr Simpson said he was willing to give serious consideration to the argument that the defence of China is

TURN to Back Page, Column 4

More Pacific Bases May Go To America

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Singapore and islands in the Pacific are being discussed in Congressional circles here in connection with proposals that Britain be asked to post some collateral against supplies to be received under President Roosevelt's "Lease and Lend" plan.

Among the suggestions heard in the capital is one that the United States should acquire from Britain strategically placed Pacific islands such as Gilbert, Ellice, Phoenix and Tokelau which form a curve round the Japanese mandated area and which are known to contain harbours suitable for United States naval and air bases.

In addition it is suggested that the United States acquire some rights in Singapore for the general protection of the Pacific interests of Britain and America.

While many Congress leaders would undoubtedly be agreeable to the acquisition of Pacific islands, isolationists would be likely to raise the cry that acquisition of rights in Singapore is nearer to being aid to Britain than safeguarding United States interests.

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Maintenance Claim

Defendant Not In Colony

Mrs Blok, *alias* Chan Yat-hing, brought a maintenance summons against G. H. Blok, before Mr H. G. Sheldon, K.C., at Central Magistracy this morning.

Blok is alleged to have neglected to provide reasonable maintenance for the complainant his legal wife, since January 1, 1941.

Blok was not in Court. It was stated that he had left Hongkong for Singapore in November.

Mrs Blok said that she married Blok about five years ago. The marriage certificate she was producing was only a copy of the original which was with the defendant. The last payment of money made to her by the defendant was on November 27 when $75 was paid over through the Court. This money was for December.

Mrs Blok said that on May 20, 1939, her husband agreed to pay her $75 a month through the Court. He left Hongkong on November 27.

Mr Sheldon adjourned the summons until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday.

Chinese Aid Bomber Fund

In response to the appeal which appeared recently over the signatures of the Chinese members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, the Hon. Mr M. K. Lo has sent donations totalling $2,600 being contributions from Chinese members of the community, to the Bomber Fund.

Following suggestions received that old gold and silverware should be melted down and the proceeds donated to the Bomber Fund, the following firms have consented to act, free of any charge, as receiving and disposal depots: Messrs Lane, Crawford, Ltd., Sennet Freres, and J. Ullmann & Company. Lists of donors and articles contributed will be published in the *South China Morning Posts* and *Hongkong Telegraph* on Mondays.

In this connection, nine medallions have been received from Mr A. E. Manwaring, and nine cups, five medals and two spoons from Mr B. V. Hutchinson.

A total of $1,540,963.19 was reached yesterday by the War Fund inaugurated by the S. C. M. Post, Ltd., with the following donations:

"Toss the Coin"—Yeung	$ 5
Mr C. W. E. Bishop (third (donation)	200
Harbour Office Nickels and Dimes (weekly donation)	2.26
"Bridges"	25
Lhombre Evening (second donation)	15
"Stung"	2
"In memory of the late Mr J. P. A. Davidson"	50
Volunteer	40
Mr L. A. Starling (monthly donation)	50
Mr E. P. Streatfield (monthly donation)	30
Mingsang Shrapnel Box (second donation)	22
Irene	200
A. H. K.	25
Cheero Club (sale of old tins, etc.)	7
Mr Lai Chun (second donation)	3
"Dollar Bet"	1
Bowls Match at K.B.G.C.:	
Sergeants	40
Bowlers	25
Springer Spaniel Puppy Fund	10
Central Police Station Canteen Cent Box (fifth donation)	20
M. C. S. T. Shrapnel Box (fourth donation)	33.54
Treasury "Shrapnel Box" (week ended 11.1.41)	4.30
Hon. Mr M. K. Lo (second donation)	300
Mr M. W. Lo (second donation)	100
Mr H. G. Leong	100
Mr Chan Hon-chee of Messrs Him Yuen	500
Messrs Lee Cheong-woo	200
Messrs Mow Fung-tai Kee	500
Siu Suk-lin	100
Messrs Mow Tai	200
Mr Tang Hoi	100
Mr M. H. Lo (second donation)	500
"A wet Sunday at Shek O"	45

THE B. W. O. F.

The following is a list of subscriptions received to date for credit of the British War Organisation Fund, Hongkong Branch:

Previously acknowledged, £100 and $623,348.66.

Miss Grace Ezra, $15; J. S. Dunnett (monthly), $20; the American Club (Result from raffle held on New Year's Eve), $200; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs Iranee, $1; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs E. C. Ritchie, $1; sale of C.H.S.S. Badge per Mrs Colledge, $1; Francois d'Hardivilliers, $500; G. Frost, $10; Mr and Mrs R. L. Wyllie, $25; Capt. I. J. Lonsius (December), $20; D. G. Day (monthly), 15; A. H. Guinness (monthly), $20; Wu Lai Tak, $152.60; A. M. Kennedy (monthly), $30; Mr and Mrs S. H. Dodwell (3rd. donation), $500; China New Guinea Mercantile Co. $50. Total $626,909.46.

Japanese Trade Mission

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LIMA, Jan. 13 (UP).—The Japanese Economic Mission touring South America arrived from Colombia today and was met by the Minister of Agriculture and Finance.

The head of the Mission, Mr Muztani, told the press that the mission was studying market conditions hoping for large scale Japanese exports against the important purchases of Peruvian materials. It is understood that they are primarily envisaging metal and cotton purchases which were formerly obtained in the United States.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

NOTICE

Mr. V. G. Bowden, Australian Trade Commissioner in China, will arrive in Hongkong about the middle of the present month for a short visit and will be glad if parties desiring to consult him in connection with Australian Trade will communicate with him, c/o Mr. S. T. Williamson, 5th. Floor, P. & O. Building.

NOTICE

DEFENCE REGULATIONS 1940

The following rates will be charged for mailing single copies of the following newspapers abroad:—

South China Morning Post
China and Macao
16 cents per copy
British Empire and Foreign
25 cents per copy

The Hongkong Telegraph
China and Macao
14 cents per copy
16 cents Saturdays
British and Foreign
20 cents per copy
25 cents Saturdays.

Italy Again Changes War Chief

CAVALLERO FOR ALBANIA

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—General Soddu has had little military experience although he was Vice-Chief of Staff under Marshal Graziani from June to November last year.

His two months in Albania have been one long series of defeats. At no point have the forces under his command made a stand against the Greeks and he has been outmanoeuvred on every hand by the strategy of General Mataxas and General Papagos. General Cavallero, his successor, is an experienced man and was Chief of Operations during the last war. He was made Under-Secretary for War when Mussolini came into power and he was called on to fill Marshal Badoglio's place when the latter vacated office in December.

Soddu's resignation is yet another in a long series. On December 11 Marshal Badoglio resigned, reportedly because he was disgusted at the way Mussolini had entered the war without adequate preparation and against the wish of most Italians. A day later the general in command of the Dodecanese Islands followed suit and he was joined by the naval leaders including the Chief of Naval Staff, his deputy, and the Commander-in-Chief of the Italian fleet.

Shortage of Leaders

The fact that Mussolini has had to call on his Chief of Staff is a sign of the extreme shortage of military leaders willing to conduct Mussolini's war. In addition to those who have resigned two have met their death and almost a dozen have been taken prisoner.

At the same time the Italian military situation goes from bad to worse. When General Cavallero reaches Albania he will find a Greek offensive in full swing in the central sector with Tepelini in a bad way.

The Greeks are still making gains beyond Klisuri and one correspondent calls it the biggest Greek offensive of the war.

The Italians are losing prisoners by the hour while Greek artillery is keeping up an intensive fire. The eight inches of snow which fell recently turned into six inches of mud over the week-end and more snow is falling.

Important Advance

The Greek advance is not great in distance but London circles say that it is a very important one. They have got behind Klisuri and are well on the road to Berat so that Italian lateral lines of communication are now 30 miles further north.

Tepelini is in an awkward position but is not entirely lost and part of a new Italian division has been sent there.

General Cavallero will have to provide better leadership than Soddu did if the Italians are to retain the town. Among his war trophies General Cavallero will find 1,500 hostages.

An Athens message says that the list of civilians issued on Sunday night does not represent the full total. It is impossible to say what the Italians intend to do with these civilians who include women. The taking of these hostages violates all the principles of international law and humanity and the advantage the Italians hope to gain is completely obscure.

Mr G. A. Lawrence, Watson and Company, North Point, reported to the Police yesterday that a quantity of tin packing worth $250 had been stolen.

ITALIAN FORCE CUT OFF

Ring Tightens Round Tobruk

CAIRO, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—An Italian force is understood to be cut off and besieged in the Jarabub Oasis, some 150 miles south of Tobruk.

The force is the one which, it is believed, Marshal Graziani intended to use for an attack on Siwa Oasis on the Egyptian side of the frontier.

Tobruk's Ring of Fire

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The concentration of our troops around Tobruk continues and a correspondent there reports that long convoys of British and Australian troops, guns, tanks and supplies are coming up continuously.

There has been a slackening of Italian artillery fire from Tobruk and their shooting is wild; possibly because they have no planes to direct their fire. The British gunners on the other hand are pounding away accurately, their shells going right into the town and also landing on the wells from which the Italian garrison gets its water.

The R.A.F. confirms that Italian air bases for a distance of 70 miles beyond Tobruk have been put out of action.

It is also confirmed that one Italian division has been cut off at the Jarabub Oasis 150 miles south of Bardia. It is only a question of time before this little garrison is forced to surrender.

Silence On Libya

CAIRO, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—G. H. Q. here continues to maintain a perhaps significant silence regarding the position in Libya.

The communique says, "No change in the situation."

Active patrolling continues in the Kassala and Gallabat sectors and the British have inflicted casualties on the Italians.

On other frontiers, there is nothing to report.

The communique concludes that a British patrol has routed an Italian force in an area in Abyssinia east of Gallabat, according to reports from the Sudan. The Italians withdrew after slight resistance, leaving 40 dead and many wounded.

The British casualties were very small.

Oasis Bombing

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The retreat of the Italians from Bardia jeopardised the force in the oasis. A few days ago the R.A.F. bombed Italian convoys north-west of Jarabub, but it was not stated whether these were withdrawing from the oasis or were attempting to relieve the troops there.

The strength of the besieged forces is not known.

Meanwhile the hard stony desert is resounding to the roar of gunfire as British artillery continues to pound the perimeter defences of Tobruk preparatory to the final onslaught on the town. There is still no indication of the full strength of the trapped garrison, but it is believed to be considerably smaller than that at Bardia.

Its position is also more difficult than at Bardia as the outer perimeter defences straddle a broader area.

Exchange At A Glance

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T.T. London	1/2⅞
Demand London	1/2⅞
T.T. Shanghai	.420
T.T. Singapore	52¾
T.T. Japan	102½
T.T. India	82½
T.T. U.S.A.	23 1/16
T.T. Manila	40⅞
T.T. Batavia	43⅞
T.T. Bangkok	149
T.T. Saigon	101¾
T.T. France	Nom.
T.T. Switzerland	99¾
T.T. Australia	1/6½

BUYING

4 m/s L/C London	1/3½
4 m/s D/P London	1/3⅝
4 m/s L/C U.S.A.	24 1/16
4 m/s France	Nom.
30 d/s India	84½
U.S. Cross rate in London	4.02½
U.S. Cross rate in N.Y.	4.03¾

Leeward Is. Bases

U.S. Marines Start

ANTIGUA, Leeward Is., Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Two officers arrived here during the week-end for the establishment of United States naval and air base on Crabbs Peninsula here.

Both officers—Commander Johnson and Major Max Smith—are of the United States Marines.

The building of a wharf, a dispensary, officers' quarters and a camp will be considered.

Sir Gordon James, Governor of the Leeward Islands, has granted a permit for the initiation of operations, and a building party consisting of three officers and 50 men of the United States Marines are expected to arrive at the end of January to begin work.

KING MEETS MR HOPKINS

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Mr Harry Hopkins, personal representative of President Roosevelt, conferred with King George for a half hour to-day.

Earlier, the King gave an audience to Mr Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister, and the newly appointed Ambassador to the United States, Lord Halifax.

Important Four-Hour Conference In Tokyo

Special to the "Telegraph"

TOKYO, Jan. 14 (Domei).—An important conference regarding international and domestic problems was held for four hours last night until 10 o'clock at the Meguro Saryo Restaurant between high officials of the Army and the Navy and the Premier, Prince Fumimaro Konoye.

This meeting, the first of its kind, was held for further co-ordination of High Command and the Government.

It was attended by the Premier, Prince Konoye, Mr Kenji Tomita, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, Lieut-General Hideki Tojo, War Minister, Lieut-General Korechika Anami, Vice-Minister of War, Major-General Akira Muto, Director of the Military Affairs Bureau of the War Office, Admiral Koshiro Oikawa, Navy Minister, Vice-Admiral Teijiro Toyoda, Vice-Minister of the Navy, Rear-Admiral Keijun Oka, Chief of the Naval Affairs Bureau of the Navy Ministry, General Gen Sugiyama, Chief of the Army General Staff, and Vice-Admiral Nobutake Kondo, Vice-Chief of the Naval General Staff.

Reason For Meetings

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

TOKYO, Jan. 14 (Domei)—Consolidation of preparations to meet the pressing international situation is seen behind the important conferences between Government, the High Command and various civilian circles.

Following last night's conference with high officials of the War and Navy Ministries and the Army and Navy General Staffs, the Government is inaugurating to-day a four-day series of conferences with the Press, Diet and financial circles. While the Government is completing preparations to meet the Diet session reconvening on January 20, Government leaders during the conferences beginning to-day are expcted to explain the Government's fundamental policies and determination to grapple with the current situation and seek people's close co-operation.

QUISLING ARMY

—On Paper

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter). — Some Quislings have enrolled in a Norwegian "regiment" which their leader is attempting to raise in order to fight with the Germans against Britain.

Appeals for recruits take up much space in Quisling newspapers in Norway, where it is declared that the regiment will be known as the Nordland Regiment.

The latest Quisling Party propaganda is an attempt at culture; giving almost superhuman powers to the Party's leader.

STEAMER SENDS OUT S.O.S.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. Jan. 13 (UP).—The Coast Guard has reported the steamer Otho of the Barber Steamship Company sent out a radio request for assistance giving her position as being about 400 miles off Cape Hatteras.

There are no details other than that the steamer said: "Extremely urgent assistance needed: standby." It is assumed a heavy sea has made her unmanageable.

Philippines Also Desire Military Aid

Proposals Submitted To U.S. Administration

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is learned from authoritative sources that the Philippine Government, through the Resident Commissioner, Senor Joaquin Elizalde, has presented the United States with a tentative plan by which the Philippines may obtain United States military equipment under the lend and lease plan.

The proposal is to be subject to the final approval of the lend and lease programme but submitted to United States military officials for study in connection with a general survey of the military procurement problem.

Already pending in the joint Army and Navy Board is a plan to use the Philippine sugar processing tax money—authorized but unappropriated—to purchase military material to supply 150,000 Philippine troops.

Senor Elizalde, commenting on the Philippine-American defence co-operation, said that the Filipinos are "willing to follow the United States foreign policy in aiding the Democracies. We are glad to bear the responsibilities and burdens which the policy will bring forth in both Europe and the Far East."

Medical Supplies For China

Get Through Burma Road

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The American Red Cross reports that medical supplies are now reaching "Free China" and this has caused the organisation to continue sending aid.

After the re-opening of the Burma Road, supplies were shipped from the United States for China's benefit, and these are now passing freely along the Road.

Investigation by the Red Cross has shown that the Road is being well-maintained despite air raids, and that 50 lorries loaded with vital medical supplies and equipment have been transported since the re-opening.

Much more will be sent from the United States, it is learned. It is probable that $1,000,000 worth of supplies will be sent, for no limit has been set for such aid.

EIRE BASES

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The High Comissioner of Eire is authorised by his government to state that there is no truth whatever in the report published in some quarters that Mr Eamon de Valera, within the last month, was offered by the Nazi Government "every possible assistance to Eire to prevent Britain from regaining control of the naval bases she had formerly leased."

Irish In N. America

OTTAWA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—"Millions of people of Irish descent in North America would acclaim every act of co-operation on the part of Eire in the war against the Axis," states a cablegram sent to-day from Irish Canadians in Canada to the Eirean Government.

The cable was signed by Dr R. Manion, former leader of the National Conservative Party, on behalf of a group of prominent Irish Canadians in various parts of the Dominion.

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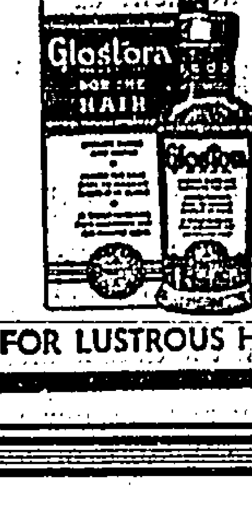

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Holders of licences which expired at the end of 1940 are reminded that if it is desired to retain possession of the apparatus after the date of expiration of the licence a renewal must be effected without delay.

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Applications may be made:—
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(b) by messenger.
(c) by post.

It is essential under (c) and preferable under (a) and (b) that applications should be accompanied by crossed Cheque payable to Hongkong Government. The new licence will then be sent by post or messenger as soon as it is ready. Where actual cash is tendered a new licence should be received in exchange before leaving the Licensing Office.

In the case of renewal the old licence should be returned with the application.

Small Packet Post to all countries is suspended.

INWARD MAILS

Sandakan .... Jan. 14.
Canton .... Jan. 15.
Rabaul and Manila .... Jan. 16.
Straits and Air Mail by "British Overseas Airways Service" (Australia only) by sea from Singapore. Jan. 16.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 9th January .... Jan. 17.
Java and Manila .... Jan. 18.
Canton .... Jan. 18.
Australia and Manila .... Jan. 20.
Air Mail by "Pan-American Airways Direct Service"—San Francisco date, 14th January. .... Jan. 21.
Australia and Manila .... Jan. 22.
Sandakan .... Jan. 23.
United Kingdom and Straits Jan. 24.

OUTWARD MAIL TIMES

Registered and Parcel Mail are closed 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated, and where mails are advertised to close at or before 9 a.m. registered and parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m. on the previous day. When mails are advertised to close after 5 p.m., Registered and Parcel mails are closed at 5 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 15
Canton .... 7 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 16
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways."
K.P.O. & G.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 16, 10.30 a.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 16, 11 a.m.
Straits and Calcutta
Parcels .... Jan. 16, 11 a.m.
Letters .... Jan. 16, Noon.

Friday, Jan. 17
Sandakan .... 8.30 a.m.
Manila, Mauritius, Lourenco Marques, and South Africa via Durban 3.30 p.m.
Air Mail by Air to Rangoon to connect with the "British Overseas Airways."
K.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 17, 4 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 17, 4.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 17, 4 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 17, 4.30 p.m.
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu, U.S.A., and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services"
K.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 17, 5 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 17, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 17, 5 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 17, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 18
Manila, Macasser and Sourabaya 8.30 a.m.
Manila, Madang, Salamaua Rabaul, Australia and New Zealand via Sydney
G.P.O. and K.P.O.
Parcels .... Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. .... Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.
Shanghai, Japan, Honolulu, U.S.A., Canada, Central and South America and United Kingdom via San Francisco (No Parcels for Canada and United Kingdom)
Note:—All mails for United Kingdom will be forwarded with or without Superscription
K.P.O.
Parcels .... Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. .... Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Parcels .... Jan. 18, 4 p.m.
Reg. .... Jan. 18, 5 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 18, 5.30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 19
Haiphong .... 9 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 20
Air Mail by Sea to Singapore to connect with the "British Overseas Airways"
K.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 20, 11 a.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 20, 11.30 a.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 20, 11 a.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 20, 11.30 a.m.
Straits. .... 12.30 p.m.
Canton .... 5 p.m.

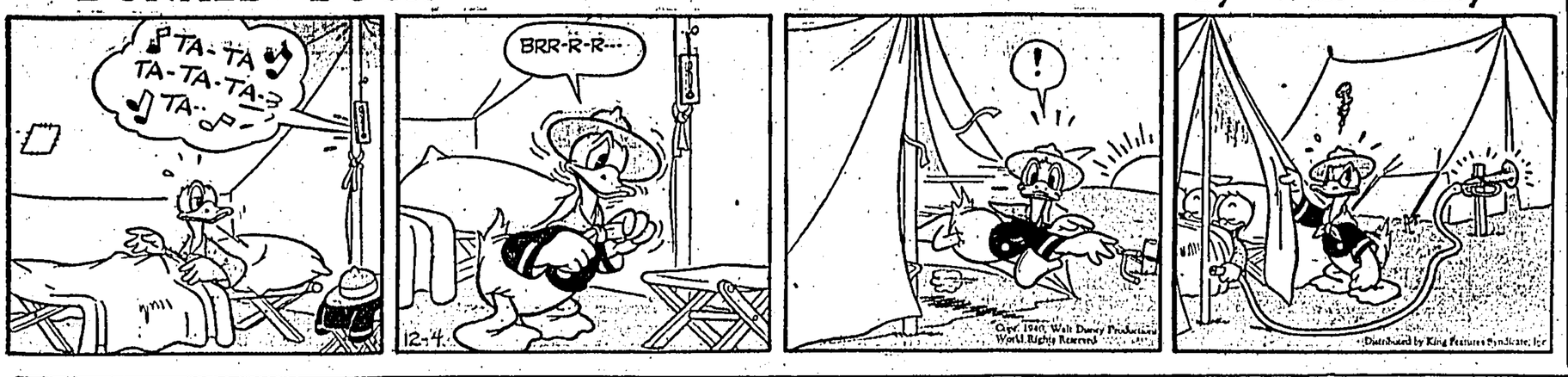
Tuesday, Jan. 21
Air Mail for Manila, Guam, Honolulu U.S.A., and Europe via "Pan-American Airways and Trans-Atlantic Services."
Kowloon P. O.
Reg. .... Jan. 21, 5.00 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 21, 5.30 p.m.
G.P.O.
Reg. .... Jan. 21, 5.00 p.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 21, 7.00 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 23
Sandakan, Madang, Salamaua, Rabaul and Tulagi .... 12.30 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 24
Formosa .... 3.30 p.m.
Straits, Ceylon, India, East and South Africa and United-kingdom.
G.P.O. & K.P.O.
Parcels. .... Jan. 24, 5.00 p.m.
Reg. .... Jan. 25, 9.45 a.m.
Ord. .... Jan. 25, 10.30 a.m.
*Superscribed Correspondence Only.

Library, Supreme Court

DONALD DUCK — By Walt Disney



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MAGAZINE PAGE

British Air Strength:

Why Men and Machines Are Superior

Day by day, the air war over Britain provides proof that British aeroplanes are superior in design and construction to those of Germany.

Indeed, the proof is so conclusive as to make Britain's pre-war claims appear far too modest. In numbers only has the enemy now a measure of superiority, and this will be soon offset by the gigantic effort being made in Britain and in the Empire generally.

To appreciate the achievement of the British aircraft industry, it is well to note that, because of Britain's gesture of disarmament, the Air Force ranked fifth among those of the nations in 1932. The British Government hesitated long in the hope that an arms race could be avoided. Eventually, the need of expanding the R.A.F. could not be denied, and in May 1935 a programme was announced for completion by March 1937.

Developments in Germany revealed that this step was not enough, and a second and larger scheme was announced for completion by March 1939.

☆ ☆ ☆

Just before the war, the rate of production was four times that of the preceding year. Present day figures cannot be revealed, of course, but it may with justification be believed that Britain is equalling Germany's output, at least, and her losses have been much smaller.

It was fortunate, indeed, that quality in British airmen and material served to make up leeway in quantity. It is this quality which has decided many an issue when weight of numbers appeared to be overwhelming against British airmen.

When the tremendous acceleration of aircraft building was decided on, the response of aircraft industry was spontaneous and full blood. For example, the famous Rolls Royce company almost completely discarded its motor car activities, with the exception of a skeleton staff to ensure post-war efficiency in the motor trade, the entire resources of Rolls Royce were concentrated on production of engines.

So it was throughout the industry, and a truly staggering revelation will be made when the actual facts and figures of this change-over are eventually published.

With the reorganisation of the plants, research and development continued, and were increased, to enhance the superiority of British machines generally.

☆ ☆ ☆

A notable step—it may be disclosed now—was the Rotol constant speed airscrew designed for the single engined fighters. The Spitfire, already the fastest aircraft in service in any air force, was made still faster by the introduction of this airscrew, and the Hurricane's performance was correspondingly improved. The Spitfire became capable of more than 400 m.p.h., and to add to the striking power of this formidable pair came the Defiant with its power-operated gun turret amidships.

Among Britain's bombers, the Wellington is one of the most successful heavy types ever built, this twin-engined midwing monoplane has a range with a full bomb load of 3,200 miles, which means that it could fly non-stop from London to New York and still have a substantial mileage in reserve.

Next on the bomber list come the Hampden and the Whitley, both twin-engined midwing types. The range of each is about 2,000 miles, which would enable them to fly non-stop with a full load, from Sydney to Perth.

The Hampden has a top speed to that of the Wellington. The Whitley's maximum is about 20 m.p.h. less. Both carrying big bomb loads and heavy defensive armament. Like the Wellington, the Whitley is equipped with power-operated gun turrets in nose and tail. These turrets have been used by the R.A.F. for some time, but it is interesting to note that the Germans discovered only just recently, the principles on which they work.

The Blenheim is the best known of Britain's multi-purpose "jobs". It has a top speed of 295 m.p.h. and a service ceiling of about 30,000 feet.

☆ ☆ ☆

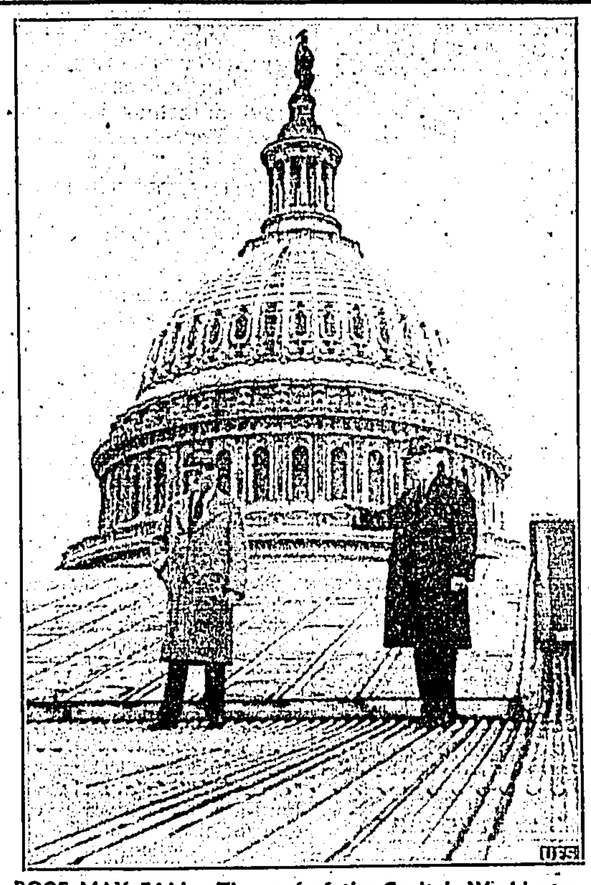
The Beaufort is the most versatile twin-engined aircraft in the world. It is used for bombing, torpedo bombing, reconnaissance and general purpose duties. Much of its performance is still "hush hush", but its top speed is considerably greater than the Blenheim's 295 m.p.h.

There are other types, too all of which incorporate the principles of British thoroughness and "honesty" in construction. Development is continuous, for Britain does not stand still, content with what she has. She realises that research must go on unendingly, and that improvement is a constant first essential of war . . . .

☆ ☆ ☆

So it is that the British pilot has the best of material to handle, and without a doubt his training is the best in the world. The most advanced and fastest training plane ever built is the Miles Master, which has been in full production for the R.A.F. for some time.

It is claimed that the design of no type of plane has advanced more quickly in the last ten years than that of this trainer, which may well be one of the main reasons for the superiority British pilots are demonstrating day after day.



ROOF MAY FALL—The roof of the Capitol, Washington, is in danger of collapsing, and architects are seen above examining the structure for projected repair work.

GERMAN AIRMAN IN SAME WARD AS VICTIMS

FEELING was aroused in a midland town because a German airman was placed in the same hospital as a number of civilians who were injured when he jettisoned his bombs after his plane was hit.

The airman was put in the same ward as some of his victims.

Relatives of the injured civilians suggest that more tact might have been shown by placing the airman in another hospital.

The airman, also, does not feel too comfortable.

Looked Scared

When he reached the hospital he asked if his bombs had caused any harm. When told that some of his victims were in the same ward as himself he looked scared.

In English, he said he was sorry for the injuries he had caused, and said he believed his bombs had fallen in a field.

It was likely that a petition will be made for the removal of the German to another hospital.

HITLER NEEDS REAL RUBBER

Rubber is a military necessity to-day. Hitler's armies do little marching; they roll along at 20, even 40 miles an hour on rubber-tyred motor-cycles, in rubber-tyred motor trucks, or fly as parachutists in aeroplanes with rubber-tyred undercarriages. A blitzkrieg without rubber is unthinkable.

Rubber does not grow many degrees above or below the Equator. So it happens that not only Germany and Italy, but also economically self-contained countries like the United States and Soviet Russia must import huge quantities from the rubber-producing lands—mostly in the Far East. The monopoly of rubber production by British and Dutch interests has certainly complicated military and industrial problems in those countries lacking this essential commodity.

For more than a generation there has been a quest for synthetic rubber. In the first instance it was necessary to pull apart chemically the natural product to find out how it was put together. It was found that raw rubber, after being heated in a retort, dripped a liquid which was named "Isoprene." Chemically analysed, isoprene turned out to be a hydrocarbon—meaning a combination of carbon and hydrogen.

Arising from these experiments with isoprene another hydrocarbon was discovered, butadiene. If this butadiene were allowed to stand long enough, or if it were heated in the presence of sodium, it would turn into a gummy mass. It was not rubber, but it had many of the properties of rubber.

The possibilities of butadiene changed the whole trend of research. Rubber itself was examined critically. It was found that rubber was unnecessarily versatile in its properties. Chemists decided that something better than natural rubber was wanted.

By Arthur Reynolds

In Germany a rubber substitute has been evolved which is known as "Buna." It is made from butadiene by a rapid process of polymerisation. At the outbreak of war about one-third of Germany's rubber requirements were met by using Buna. Undoubtedly its use must be considerably greater now, and captured German aeroplanes show its extended use. Buna is not only a substitute but as far as results are concerned, a very effective substitute.

Cost is still a barrier in the manufacture of synthetic rubber which averages not less than double the price of natural rubber. In certain directions, however, manufacturers prefer the higher-priced synthetic rubber, more satisfactory because of its resistance to heat, acids, oil and some strong chemicals.

Let there be no illusion, however, about the production of artificial rubber in Germany. Her requirements are tremendous — probably about 250,000 tons a year. Plants to meet these requirements would have to be on a vast scale, equipped with special machinery and large bodies of skilled workers employed. It is considered that a plant capable of producing 250,000 tons of synthetic rubber (Buna) annually would cost about £2,000,000. Further large sums would be involved to cover the increased cost of Buna over natural rubber.

There is little chance that natural rubber will disappear from the market. Not even the most hopeful chemist visualises this. The big rubber companies have been bringing their production costs down so that a market price of 4d. a pound is still profitable. Synthetic substitutes must compete on a utility basis, which means that they must do what natural rubber can never do.

SPARROW KILLS A V.C.

OUT in France four British soldiers were shot dead while trying to cross 400 yards of "no-man's land" to bring reinforcements to one section of the line.

Then Alfred Wilkinson volunteered to go.

By extraordinary skill he got across the country exposed to enemy fire, and delivered his message.

For doing so he was awarded the V.C.

That was in 1917.

A few days ago Wilkinson (now 46 and doing his bit in this war as a special constable) was found dead—gassed—in the laboratory at Bickershaw Colliery, Leigh, Lancashire, where he was a tester.

He had been killed by a sparrow which had lodged in a furnace pipe and caused carbon monoxide to accumulate in the laboratory.

This was revealed at the inquest, when a verdict of death by misadventure was returned.

STOCK-TAKING
SALE

Ladies' Fur Collar Coats . . . . . from $10.00 each
Ladies' Tweed Suits $10.00
Ladies' Corsets . . . . . from $4.00 each
Woollen dress Materials 36" wide . . . . $2.95 yd.
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Monster Gardinia Talcum Powder . . . . 70 cts. tin
Ladies handbags less than half price.

Many other bargains will be displayed on the Ground floor.

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Heian Maru . . . . . Saturday, 25th Jan.
SOUTH AMERICA (West Coast) via Hilo & San Francisco.
• Akagi Maru (starts from (Kobe) . Wednesday, 15th Jan.
NEW YORK via Japan & Panama
• Nozima Maru . . . . . Friday, 24th Jan.
SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via Manila.
Suwa Maru . . . . . Wednesday, 29th Jan.
HAIPHONG, SAIGON & MADRAS
• Tottori Maru . . . . . Sunday, 19th Jan.
(Cargo accepted for Haiphong & Saigon)
BOMBAY via Singapore & Colombo.
Haruna Maru . . . . . Tuesday 28th Jan.
• Okitu Maru . . . . . Friday, 10th Feb.
RANGOON & CALCUTTA via Singapore.
• Genoa Maru . . . . . Tuesday, 14th Jan
• Toba Maru . . . . . Tuesday, 28th Jan.
KOBE & YOKOHAMA.
Kamakura Maru . . . . . Tuesday, 14th Jan.
Kamo Maru . . . . . Wednesday, 22nd Jan.
Yawata Maru . . . . . Tuesday, 28th Jan.
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SWEET POTATO PIPER, Fox trot "ROAD TO SINGAPORE".

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IF I SHOULD FALL IN LOVE AGAIN, Waltz.
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on Saturday morning, 18th January, ladies will offer flags for sale in aid of the Fund to present more bombers to Britain.

Fifteen thousand flags have been given for this purpose.

If everyone pays one dollar for his or her emblem —

$15,000

will be sent Home.

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will be sent Home.

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Organised by the Hongkong War Effort Committee.

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To make sure your automobile will GO is very important.

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BIRTH

BLISS: At the Kowloon Hospital, on 13th January, 1941, to Phyllis, wife of Mr. A. S. Bliss, a son.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

Tuesday, January 14, 1941.
Wyndham St., Hongkong
Telephone: 26615

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LULL IN FREE CHINA

AFTER three and a half years of war the Chungking Government can survey its position with some satisfaction, not unmingled with bright hopes for the future. With the goodwill of most of the world on her side and with considerable assets and potential assets forthcoming from the democracies and Russia, Free China has tremendous resources to add to the treasure she has found in the pacific west.

The terrific bombardments of Japanese aviators have failed to dislodge the Government from what seems to be its last stronghold; the morale of the civilian population has withstood the harrowing experiences of rape and pillage, wholesale slaughter and fifth columnist subterfuge; the army is strong and well trained; the air force is being reborn, and the industrial life of the country is settling down into coordinated paths from which will emerge a regulated economy to offset the unsettled turmoil of the vast "no man's land."

The absence of large scale warfare of recent months has encouraged a slackening off in the martial intensity that prevailed throughout the first three years. Japan has other fields to explore and both sides have felt the impact of the European conflict.

The danger to China is that she may be lulled into a false complacency; hoping that hostilities may tail off into a mere standing on guard, she may grow weary of war preparation—as well she might after the heroic struggle she has already put up.

Battles are not won by retreating, however. A great Chinese offensive is the last thing that the Japanese would care to face during the next few months and such an event might well force them to reasonable peace terms to free their hands elsewhere. China must look after her own fate and if she could persuade the Japanese troops to evacuate the mainland she would have a solid basis for future prosperity which neither Britain nor America would grudge her. By voluntarily accepting the stalemate which has now been reached, Chungking also risks moral disintegration by removing the object round which the regeneration of China is focussed. She must fight or make peace. The Chinese cannot be kept for over in a state of pent-up patriotism unless the effort to win the war is sustained.

There is also the question of the vast funds made available to Chungking by the Democracies. China should learn how and by whom the money is being spent. The recent outbreak of rice hoarding, the artificial prices of luxuries in the Free capital, the life of ease which many wealthy Chinese are living in Hongkong, are all retarding influences on the steady upward gradient which Chiang Kai-shek has pursued. So far the signs are not too serious; they can be checked. But something is needed to divert the Chinese away from the dangerous suggestion that the war is as good as won because China is now morally aligned with the Democracies and because Japan is allowing her attention to wander.

Now indeed is the time for China to rally her people for a great drive and one which may, happily, prove the last effort necessary to achieve her aim—to rule her own people and country under one flag.

Among the Germans — in — Occupied Brussels

This article comes from a Correspondent who, after five years' residence in France, left Paris in June, tramped to Bordeaux, then returned to the occupied capital for a short stay, and at last, finding his way to Brussels, remained there during August and early September.

The first leaves are falling as I sit in the park opposite the Royal Castle in Brussels before my departure in the second week of September. Children are playing round the big pond, which brings up memories of the Luxembourg Gardens in Paris. Toy boats sail across the dark waters and young voices fill the air as the children laugh and shout. From the main entrance on the other side of the park comes the faint sound of trams and motor cars. You cannot hear the tramp of German army boots here, but you know it is there on the pavements.

Barbed wire shuts off the centre of the park, and German sentries guard the wireless station which has been put up there next the children's playground among green lawns and flower beds.

On one side of the park flies the swastika flag over the Royal Palace; on the other side, the street as well as the courtyards, halls, rooms, and corridors of the former Parliament and Government buildings swarms with German soldiers, for all these premises have been taken over by the invaders.

The uniforms are manifold in colour and design, dark green, light green, dark grey, light grey, many shades of browns and blues, mixtures of black and brown, black and white, and other combinations. All are adorned with some kind of weapon, a rifle or revolver or a rather ridiculous looking sort of dagger dangling at the hip. For these the Belgians have their own facetious pet name.

Some nine-tenths of the German military here walk about in high black boots, which are worn even by the railway officials.

Tramp, Tramp, Tramp

Brussels is full of these boots. You cannot forget them. If you close your eyes the sound of their tramp haunts you, be it by day or at any hour of the night. And as accompaniments to the perpetual tramp, tramp, tramp, you hear the sharp shouts and commands of the men who wear them, the noise of their innumerable motors, carts, tanks, trucks, motor-cycles, buses, and overhead the roar of aeroplane engines. There is no escape, for if you go into a restaurant or shop, especially a food shop, any hotel or bar, boulevard or square, the scene is everywhere dominated by men and women in German uniforms.

Their names are perplexingly numerous. Besides the *Deutsche Wehrmachtangehorige* (the military proper) there are members of the *Arbeitsdienst, Technische Nothilfe, Arbeitsorganisation Todt, Streifendienst, Nationalsozialistische Volkswohlfahrt, Hitlerjugend*, various kinds of Civil servants now in military uniform, bank clerks, transport officials, *Kraft durch Freude* men and women, and the Gestapo.

But the striking thing about these hundreds and thousands of soldiers and semi-soldiers, ranging from youths to grey-headed men, girls, nurses, and what not, is that they do not live up to the creed imposed on the superracial citizens of glorious and victorious Great Germany or maintain the dignity which their citizenship enjoins. They are certainly in the main tired, warweary, and demoralised to a high degree.

This statement is not based on wishful thinking but on actual observation and first-hand experience. Intimate and unconstrained contact with German soldiers, officials, and women in Belgium to-day, makes the propaganda to which we have been subjected, the official bulletins and newspapers we have read both in German and in French, seem unreal. Rarely, indeed scarcely ever, can you hear among the many German uniforms in Belgium any of the the high-flown phrases about victory, greatness, and invincibility. On the contrary, the Germans in Belgium betray a surprising lack of faith in the propaganda of their Government.

Only yesterday I heard a German officer say quietly that he thought the Germans would find it impossible to invade and defeat England. "Our people do not know the English," he explained, "but I have spent many years among them in their country."

Sick and Tired

German soldiers in Belgium are frequently heard to declare they detest this war, that they are sick and tired of it and want to go home. At first one can scarcely believe one's ears and wonders whether it is not some sort of trap or astute new form of propaganda, but that idea soon passes and the conviction is formed that the "victorious" German soldiers are seriously demoralized. At the slightest inducement, and often without, they will produce photographs of their wives, children, dogs, or other pets, and talk at length about the bombing of their home towns, the permanent dangers in which their families live while they themselves are or seem to be in relative security marking time. Encourage these sentimental bullies to talk about letters from home and you soon feel you have them on the verge of tears.

So far as can be judged, most of the soldiers now in Brussels have been some two years in arms. If asked about the end of the war they generally shrug their shoulders and show no pleasure in the prospect of the future. They certainly criticize the occupation of Denmark and Norway, and they wonder what they are doing in Belgium, "which will never become German, anyway."

They do not want to fight, they can easily be induced to profess that they personally have no great sympathy for the Nazi Government, they obviously have no firm faith in ultimate victory, and the view can often be heard that, "if we do not succeed with our invasion of England in the course of September—and we shall probably not succeed, though we still hope, of course—we shall never win this war." Without any inducement they now occasionally add, "And that means revolution."

We know German and Germans sufficiently to remember some of their re-actions, how cruelty and sentimentality are typical features of their character. A man who does not hesitate to machine-gun women and children will sit down and cry, yes, actually shed tears, at the though of his pet canary being killed by a cat. They are decidedly in sentimental mood to-day. For they are not used to suffering directly as a people during war. The bombing of Berlin and Hamburg is making them tearful. Yet I am convinced it is not only this which has turned their stomach against this war: they are just sick of it for no particular reason and most of them are not Nazis at heart.

In The Grip Of Terror

True as this may be of the Germans in Brussels, it would be too much to conclude that their wariness, disgust, or general disapproval are enough to bring them to open revolt. It may seem madness, it surely is some form of madness, but these people are in the grip of terror, terrified to death, and will never find strength and will power of themselves to oppose their Nazi leaders.

The Belgians, who clearly realize the obvious demoralization of the German troops in their country, are equally convinced of their powerlessness to take any sort of revolutionary initiative.

A Belgian workman put the case in a nutshell the other day when he said, "They tell us they detest the war and want to go home, but they are here all the same. That is all that really counts." He added, with the air of a conspirator, "But you wait and see. In 1918 we let them all go home. This time not one of them who lingers shall leave the country: there is room for all of them in the canal."

The attitude of the Belgians towards the invader is clear, and the Flemish people also appear not so delighted as the Nazi Government would have the world believe. It seems now that, faced with the Germans, they are all cally Belgians and their mutual antagonisms fade at the prospect of having the country carved into bits. The people of Belgium feel now that the have been defeated by treachery. They have no one clear idea as to who has brought them to their present plight, but all in Belgium know to-day that it is not the English who have betrayed them, though the Germans have sought to propagate this conception.

It is touching and curious to observe how they contrive to spread the news of the B.B.C. They listen where and when they can, in spite of the heavy penalty prescribed by the Germans. Servants, waiters, tram conductors, indeed everybody, does his best to pass choice items along as fast as possible, and all listen with delight for the sound of British aeroplanes which come after dusk to bomb the Germans in their midst.

"Britannique" Wins

In spite of the thorough German militarization, or perhaps because of it, the Belgians show their real sentiments whenever they have an opportunity. On September 1 there were horse races near Brussels, and among the horses was one called Britannique. Nobody seemed to know anything about this horse, but it seemed that everybody was backing it to win. Well, as Chesterton says, the curious thing about miracles is that they sometimes happen. And a miracle happened that day: the dark horse Britannique came in first, and the crowd lost all restraint, laughing, roaring, shouting "Britannique," clapping one another on the back, and acting as if they had not merely won money but had received a welcome sign from Heaven.

The Germans in Belgium are over-organized and therefore inefficient, as many of the numerous departments often work against one another, wittingly or unwittingly, and cancel out. The highest authorities are sometimes quite ignorant of important things done within their province.

Belgian Whispers

Living in Belgium you feel there is something in the German machine that does not work as smoothly as it should. There appear to be two distinct features, the military and the economic, which are often out of gear. When economic plans break down the military take charge. In spite of the demoralized temper of the troops, the military machine still works through inertia with tolerable efficiency, and it would be wrong to regard the soldiers as on the road to an early revolution.

It is often said, and with apparent truth, that nine-tenths of all Germans are out of sympathy with their Nazi masters, but if this is really so they are the passive nine-tenths, who will not of themselves rise in active revolt against the active one-tenth. But there is another possibility, which some competent observers incline to regard even as a probability.

The stunned spirit of the Belgians has largely recovered, and the word "revolution" is often whispered. It was heard now and then as far back as August, but only in a vague and dreamy way. But the economic spoliation of the country which has not yet reduced the people to the apathy following long and gradual starvation has aroused intense resentment.

For the moment only the spirit of revolt is there, ready to take shape if practical opportunity should arise. At the beginning of September the good old *La Libre Belgique* appeared again on the scene. It is believed that, when the moment is ripe and active revolt becomes a fact in France or any other occupied country, it will rapidly spread to all certainly to Belgium.

The movement, if movement it may be called, appears for the present at least to have little or no taint of Bolshevism, for Communists and Nazis are lumped together in the minds of most citizens of Belgium and looked upon as traitors. The only tangible thing in the goal towards which minds tend is the liberation of Belgium from foreign domination.

The problem of King Leopold is not often raised. It is difficult at present to say definitely how the King stands with his people in Belgium. Something akin to incipient propaganda for *Leopold, le Roi Humain* is afoot and many people wear a tiny gift crown in their buttonhole as a symbol of adhesion to his cause. The King appears to be in some sort of conflict with the Germans, though no trustworthy information is available on the nature of their disagreements. He is more or less a prisoner, and while this fact and the belief that he is causing the Germans difficulties tend to improve his position, he is still far from enjoying the affection of the whole of the Belgian people.

Women Smokers More Careless

WATERBURY, Conn. (UP).—Women shoppers who smoke, and not men, create fire hazards in department stores, according to the city fire board.

The board voted to ask for an ordinance forbidding smoking in department stores. Members said men rarely smoke while shopping, but women do, and drop ashes near inflammable materials.

EXHAUSTED BY FEVER?

Then read this:—

You are not out of danger when fever has subsided. The weakness it leaves behind exposes you to relapse or fresh infection. You must rebuild your worn-out body immediately and quickly.

The way to do this is to find a food that soothes the enfeebled stomach and provides all the nutrition value of big, solid meals. The food very many doctors choose for their fever patients is Horlicks. It is nourishment in the most easily digested form. It repairs the damage to nerves and tissues, builds up strength, creates new vitality and helps to keep complications out of convalescence. Patients who turn against other foods are able to enjoy Horlicks. Get it to-day from your store. (9)

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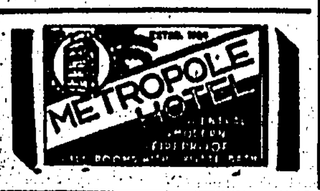

WAR DRUMS BEAT AS LION OF JUDAH SUMMON ABYSSINIANS

(By "Reuter's" Correspondent)

KHARTOUM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The nightly brooding of the Ethiopian sky resounds to the roll of drums, spelling out a message for which the Ethiopians have been waiting five years—that the Emperor is near at hand and that the moment of deliverance is not far off.

In a special interview granted me by the Lion of Judah, I learned that the dark, bearded, distinguished Emperor has already made contact with the Ethiopian chiefs from the interior.

The last time I saw the Emperor he was disembarking at Haifa five years ago from a British destroyer after his flight from Abyssinia.

Then he was careworn and dejected; to-day, he sat on a purple silk-covered wooden throne in his little square palm-fringed palace beside the placid waters of the Blue Nile.

Alert and bright-eyed, he is another being. In a voice vibrant with confidence, he told me of his plans—that the day was not far distant when he would cross the border and lead the Ethiopian patriot army against the enemy.

There was a glint of assurance in his eyes as he exlaimed, "I will tear down the figure of the wolf erected by the Italians in Addis Ababa Square and in its place will reinstate the white marble statute of the Lion of Judah, the original of which they took to Rome."

Revolt Making Headway

Haile Selassi was well-pleased with the progress of his army's training and added, "The revolt is making great headway, thanks to the whole-hearted support of the British Government."

"It is the writing on the wall. The days of my former Italian ally who betrayed my country, are numbered. He built fine roads but he killed and enslaved thousands of my people; he failed to break their spirit and I look forward to their liberation and the institution of a just, constitutional government."

The Emperor told me that just as Marshal Badoglio had done, he would personally lead his victorious troops to Addis Ababa, mounted on a white horse.

I asked him if it was true that the Royal Crown of the House of Judah was now in Rome. He said that the crown which Badoglio took to Rome was stolen by the Italians from the Ethiopian Church and was not the Emperor's Crown.

War Drums Beat

He went on to explain about the royal war drums which nightly are beating on the hilltops of Gojjam and along the frontier. "There are 44 of them. Some are big, others are small, hollowed out from tree trunks and covered with cowhide. My chieftains are allowed a maximum of 12 drums each, but mine sound a particular signal and when the peculiar note of those drums is heard my people know that I am nearby.

"I know that they are hearing and understanding the message of my drums because hundreds of former soldiers who were forced to fight with the Italians are deserting and rallying to the standard raised at Gojjam by my faithful commanders."

The Emperor then held a clandestine meeting with a number of Ethiopian chiefs from the interior. At the risk of their lives, they made their way to the meeting on the frontier and upon ascertaining that their Emperor was really there they one and all re-pledged their fealty.

The audience terminated on a personal and still confident note. "I hope you will accompany me when I return to my country," said the Emperor as I left the palace.

BRITISH RESOURCES DEBATE

Country Still Dissatisfied

(BY "REUTER'S" LOBBY CORRESPONDENT)

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—It is anticipated that the well-known expert, Sir William Beveridge, will be appointed to take full-time direction of the country's manpower problem.

Discussion on new proposals to accelerate the war effort is intensifying in political circles, politicians having now had a week to consider them and even now it cannot be said that there is general approval, criticism being focussed on the questions of manpower and production.

The next Parliamentary debate, originally intended to be a secret session, is on manpower and production, and the House of Commons will have an opportunity of expressing its views on the changes made. Many feel that the whole question of manpower and production needs more effective dealing and more action.

Britain And Indo-China-Thai Dispute

Difficult To Mediate

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Central News).—It is pointed out that if a third party intervenes in the Indo-China dispute assuredly it would not be Britain. British relations with Thailand have always been friendly. All boundary questions in the past have been settled amicably.

The present British Minister at Bangkok, Mr Crosby, is a diplomat of considerable seniority and is believed to enjoy the Thailand Government's friendship and confidence.

It is difficult, London circles emphasised, for Britain to-day to offer to mediate, since British relations with Vichy and Indo-China have ceased to exist. However, it is hoped that the United States will see her way to act as honest broker, though no such attempt has yet been heard.

Southern Pacific Base

In London it is speculated that the motive behind a possible third-party intervention, apart from the desire to occupy Indo-China, is to gain a strategic position in the area near Singapore, Burma, the Philippines, and the Dutch East Indies for operations in the Pacific. The third party also is attempting to foster the border clash into a major war in order to supply arms and munitions to Thailand. This will necessarily be accompanied by technical collaboration between the third party and Thailand which in turn could develop into economic and political control of the latter country.

Peace Terms Allegations Enquiry

JOURNALIST TO BE QUESTIONED

NEW YORK, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Verne Marshall, Chairman of the "No Foreign War Committee," announced to-day that he had been served with a subpoena to appear before the Grand Jury of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia, and added that he did not know the reason.

Mr Marshall, who is a newspaper editor of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, alleged a fortnight ago that President Roosevelt had a chance a year ago to halt the European war and still had the chance to serve as peacemaker if he grasped it.

He told a sensational story of German official peace terms being flown to the United States in September, 1939, by William Rhodes Davis, the New York oil operator. He further alleged that these terms were suppressed by the State Department although they involved "just and honourable" terms for a peace conference to be held at the White House with President Roosevelt as mediator.

Can't Help Very Much

Nazi Aid To Italy Assessed

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The German air force is hardly capable of changing the situation in Albania and Libya, says the military correspondent of the newspaper, "Dagbladet," assessing the Italian reverses.

He regards German troop transport across Italy as unlikely both on mechanical and Italian prestige grounds.

An attempt to transport troops across Yugo-Slavia and Bulgaria would be extremely hazardous especially if Turkey supported any resistance which might be offered.

The Italian reverses, he declares, may be due partly to bad luck, including premature action in Greece, the element of surprise in Egypt and bad weather but, he continues, "It would seem that Italian troops do not reach the quality of their adversaries."

Nazi Air Blitz In Mediterranean

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Rumours of a coming Nazi air blitz in the Mediterranean are being spread from Berlin.

The Berlin correspondent of the "Dagens Nyheter" reports to-day that the German military command is obviously alive to the ever-increasing importance to the operations in the Mediterranean and lively activity by the German air force may be expected in that area in the next few weeks.

Prime Minister To Broadcast

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, Jan. 13 (UP).—It is learned that the Prime Minister, Mr Winston Churchill, intends shortly to broadcast and it is to the Dutch East Indies Pacific is expected he will touch on affairs.

Obstacle To French Thai Negotiations

—Bangkok Dignity

SINGAPORE, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The withdrawal of the French Minister to Thai last May to take up the appointment of Minister to Venezuela was given to "Reuter" by the Thai Consul here as the reason why Thailand is not in a position to negotiate with the French.

The Consul said that Admiral Decoux, the Governor-General of Indo-China, had expressed his willingness to undertake such negotiations but the Thai Government could not recognise the appointment of the Indo-Government official who replaced M. Lepisseer.

Indo-China was not a sovereign Power with which the Thai Government could negotiate.

A way might be opened for negotiations if M. Lepisseer resumed his duties as French Minister.

Seeking To Avoid War With Italy?

U.S. Overtures To Rome Reported

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

ROME, Jan. 13 (UP).—The American Ambassador to Rome, Mr William Phillips, arrived at Genoa to-day en route to Rome, and it is reported in diplomatic circles that he is bearing a special message from President Roosevelt to King Victor Emanuel.

The message may suggest the possibility of the United States and Italy keeping out of the war should the United States and Germany become involved in conflict. Such an Axis precedent is seen in the fact that Germany still maintains a Legation at Athens despite the Italian war with Greece.

Only Brief Visit

For some time reports were current that Mr Phillips was returning to Rome for only a short time; there is a suggestion that he will return to Washington within a month or two and make a special report to the President.

It is pointed out that Mr Alexander Kirk was only recently appointed *Charge d'Affaires* at the Rome Embassy with Ministerial rank, and it is understood that he will continue in this post, despite the return of Mr Phillips.

Floods Sweep Turkey

Bridges, Roads Wrecked

ANKARA, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Many lives were lost and much damage was caused by disastrous floods in the Antioch region in Turkey where the River Asi overflowed following torrential rains.

The floods swept away bridges, wrecked mills, destroyed roads, uprooted trees and inundated farm lands over a wide area.

The losses of livestock have been heavy and communications are completely disrupted.

Inhabitants are being evacuated from a large zone.

The rains continue.

BRITAIN, AFTER THE WAR

Ideals Propounded By Mr Greenwood

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—"The British Government is deeply concerned to ensure that the free spirit of man shall emerge from the ruins of war," declared Mr Arthur Greenwood, Minister without Portfolio, broadcasting to-day.

"We must help to create conditions under which nations will be able to work out their own salvation so long as they work in neighbourly relations with others and do not flout the law of nations.

"Opportunities for aggression must be restrained by the combined will and organisation of those nations which stand for orderly progress and against the tyrannical exercise of power.

"Britain after the war will not tolerate in her midst the tragic spectacle of abject poverty nor the scourge of unemployment. We shall look forward to developing our educational system and social services. We are planning to get rid of ugliness in our towns and to build a fairer Britain and to replace the hovels that remain by worthy homes."

Manhattan Is Still Aground

Listing Heavily

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. Jan. 13 (UP).—The Liner Manhattan which ran aground at Lake Inlet, seven miles north of here last night, is still hard aground, despite the fact that two revenue cutters attempted to release her at high tide. It appears that further assistance will be necessary.

The vessel is listing 15 degrees to port with the United States flag which is painted on her side barely above water. The passengers numbering 199 are still aboard.

To Remove Passengers

WEST PALM BEACH, Florida, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Coastguards tried fruitlessly for hours to refloat the liner Manhattan.

Several hawsers snapped during the attempts and ground swells carried her further ashore.

Arrangements are being made to remove the liner's 200 passengers.

Some passengers of the Manhattan were taken off by Coast Guard cutters but surf swells interfered temporarily with plans to take them all off in small boats.

Japan's Overdraft

TOKYO, Jan. 14 (Reuter).—Japan's national debt in the form of domestic and foreign loan bonds at the end of last year totalled Y28,253,200,000, according to an official announcement by the Ministry of Finance.

These figures indicate an increase of Y1,300,300,000 on the total at the end of November and an increase of Y6,733,000,000 compared to that of one year ago.

Belgium Prepared As Base For Invasion

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—In preparation for an attempt to invade Britain, thousands of workers have been drafted by the Germans to repair waterways and bridges destroyed during the invasion of Belgium, according to news received in London by the "Free Belgian" news service.

The Germans have aimed first at re-establishing navigation between Bruges and Ghent and the port of Antwerp. Men have been working day and night to repair canals.

Some 750 bridges were destroyed during the fighting last May and hundreds of ships were sunk in the waterways and ports.

A system of "voluntary" labour service on the Nazi model has been started in Belgium and a special camp is due to be opened this week for the instruction of leaders to take charge of labour camps.

Despite the propaganda drive carried on for some months, the number of "volunteers" for the labour service is very small.

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"R. Abbit's" Cricket Comments

EARLY AND LATE DECLARATIONS

K.C.C. Juniors Hold On Too Long: L.T. Ride Saves University

THERE WERE two rather curious games on Saturday last and they illustrated two very different views on cricket. The I.R.C. made a very sporting declaration against the University first eleven to enable them to have a chance of winning. The fact that they lost does not to my mind alter the fact that they did the right thing.

Batsmen In Scoring Mood

Against the University second,—not a dangerous batting side though they can keep their wickets up—the K.C.C. second eleven held on until ten past four when they had 211 on the board. It is true that it enabled two men to complete their centuries. But it probably cost the side a win.

Hulse batted very well for the Craigengower side, and I was sorry only to see the last third of his innings. Going in first wicket down he remained undefeated at the end of the innings scoring fifty-eight.

As the next highest batting score was nine, Craigengower would have made an even worse showing but for the fact that there were 45 extras!

It is not a big ground and if the wicket-keeper misses the ball it is at the boundary at once, but this is far below Archie Zimmern's true form.

The strong K.C.C. batting made little of the task of getting 126 runs and Anderson (41) D. Hung (23) and E. F. Fincher (47) got most of them. I am glad to see Ernie Fincher getting runs again as he has had a poor season.

Sporting Declaration

I WAS very interested to see that Ride has decided to play for the Varsity in the league. It will stiffen their batting tremendously. They are already a very much improved side and should do quite well.

The Indians got 154 for 5 declared and I am told the Varsity had an hour and three quarters to get the runs and did so. All honour to both sides.

Ride's 66 not out was the decisive score, but Fenton got 24, and the captain, N. C. Sen Gupta, was not out 16, hitting off the runs with Ride.

Minu got 4 for 62 and I rather think the matting does not suit him. He and A. H. Madar bowled all but three of the 29 overs sent down and it is clear that the Indians are sadly in need of some good change bowlers.

Regrets

I SEE from Mr Mahmood's letter that I owe him an apology. Actually I stated the Army case, and writing my notes on Sunday at my house I could not check up from the University card and forgot to on Monday morning!

According to that and the I.R.C. card, a friendly between the two Clubs had been arranged and I presume this was cancelled for the "domestic" fixture. It appears evident that some misunderstanding occurred, and the Army list does not agree with fixtures down in the University card.

I still adhere to the view, which is general and not particular, that it would be wise for all Club secretaries to check up on their games a couple of days before.

Century At The Club

THERE was a carefree game between the Club "A", which included Major Grose, Richardson and Perry. The latter got 46 and C. W. E. Bishop 55 not out—a good knock to watch. The score was 150 for 8 when Richardson, (who I understand was acting captain), declared.

He had reckoned without some good Royal Scots' batting, for the first four bowlers could do nothing against Douglass and Coombes. Perry going on third change (!) took a wicket for 3 runs in 2 overs,—he bowled Douglass when he had made forty-five and then Dicky took him off and put himself on!

Coombes hit very hard and reached his century while Emmerson shaped well for his 23 not out. The Royal Scots had scored 190 for 3 wickets when stumps were drawn. It is very pleasant seeing a regimental team going.

Second Division

THE Indians' second eleven fared no better than the first as they could only muster 150 runs. At the beginning of the season I should have thought that enough against Craigengower second, but they have improved, and managed, thanks to the fact that A. Hung, C. W. Lam, A. B. Hamson, U. M. Omar, and U. H. Esmail all made scores of over twenty, to get the runs for 7 wickets. A. M. Omar's five wickets for thirty-three was a useful performance.

Two Centuries

I CANNOT recall any instance of two openjng batsmen each making a not out century in Hongkong as Baxter and Tom Madar did on the K.C.C. ground. 211 for no wicket was the result. The University managed to hold out.

It is true they only had two less overs than the K.C.C. batsmen, but they might have had several more!

Fenton did his best with 5 for 35, but Naranjan Singh going in number eight dug in and was not out 27, while Kenneth Lo hung on also and got 15 runs.

Only 8 wickets fell and the match was drawn.

Recreio On Top

F. J. REMEDIOS rather took ten with the Police bowling and in the later part of his innings, which was all I saw, he played some very nice strokes, and just completed his 50 before the declaration at 165 for 8 wickets.

There were several fours hit early on by the Police batsmen, but a procession started and they were all out for sixty.

Army "A" Win

THE Civil Service second eleven lost a very low scoring game to the Army "A"—or so, I suppose. They could only manage to get 34 runs. Hawkins took 5 for 13 and three batsmen were run out! The Army only got 64 for 9, and I see Colledge took three wickets for no runs.

The China New Year Game

IT is pleasant to hear that the Club have their two-dny fixture against the K.C.C. Recently I have noticed that they seem to be meeting the same opponents quite frequently, and I do not think a Club v Army match nearly such a good fixture.

The Club will have to dig out some bowling,—Perry, McLellan and Baker will form a nucleus.

Dicky Richardson had the effrontery to inform me that he was not playing as he was having a golfing holiday at Fanling. What would have happened to him if he had not been giving me a run down to the Valley in his car I don't know. Golf!

I trust he will have a pleasant holiday and that the putts drop as well as the gins, but I shall miss his batting—and so will the Club.

However, its about time Alec Pearce made another of his centuries.

Chess

Progress In Kowloon Club Tournaments

ENTRIES for the Senior Colony Chess Championship this year do not include that of K. M. A. Barnett, last year's champion. The names received are those of E. Zimmern (runner-up last year), C. M. Sequeira, D. E. de Carvalho, K. Weiss, L. Karpovich and G. S. Coxhead.

Senior and Junior championships of the Kowloon Chess Club have been divided into two sections for each—"A" and "B"—and the winners of each Section will meet in the best of three games to decide the absolute winners.

The field is fairly open in the "A" Section of the Senior Championship where both Sequiera and Karpovich have scored 5½ points each, although the former has a game in hand. In the "B" Section it looks very much like a victory for Carvalho, who has 6½ points in eight games, Biriukoff, his nearest rival, having scored 5 points in nine games.

V. V. Kolatchoff and J. Grefalda are vieing for honours in the "A" section of the Junior Championship, while S. Benjamin, who has obtained 6 points in seven games, looks a certain winner of "B" section. Tables to date are:

Senior Tournament, Section "A"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
C. M. Sequeira	7	4	3	0	5½
L. Karpovich	8	5	1	2	5½
G. S. Coxhead	7	4	2	1	5
K. Weiss	6	3	0	4	3
H. A. Samuel	7	1	0	6	1
*P. A. Yvanovich	3	0	1	3	0
	38	18	6	18	19

*Has withdrawn from Tournament.

Senior Tournament, Section "B"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
D. E. de Carvalho	8	6	1	1	6½
G. Y. Biriukoff	9	5	0	4	5
K. M. A. Barnett	6	4	0	2	4
R. D. Evans	8	2	2	4	3
M. W. Olsufieff	7	2	1	4	2½
W. Lee	8	2	0	6	2
	46	21	4	21	22

Junior Tournament, Section "A"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
J. Grefalda	9	6	0	3	6
V. V. Kolatchoff	8	5	0	3	5
F. A. Fabel	7	4	0	3	4
A. C. Poupard	7	4	0	3	4
*A. C. Mitchell	8	3	0	5	3
Th. Laufer	9	2	0	7	2
	48	24	0	24	24

*Has withdrawn from Tournament.

Junior Tournament, Section "B"

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Pts.
S. Benjamin	7	6	0	1	6
J. H. D'Almeida	8	5	1	2	5½
D. Drake	7	4	0	3	4
A. Benjamin	5	4	0	1	4
C. Lee	7	1	0	6	1
J. Walther	8	0	1	7	½
	42	20	2	20	21

Golf

G.M. Park Wins Bomber Fund Competition

The golf play-off at Fanling of the tie between G.M. Park (7), G. Thomerson (20) and T. Mcgarry (11) in the first competition in aid of the "South China Mroning Post" Bomber Fund, resulted in a win for Park, who returned a card of one up.

ADAMSON CUP

G. W. Reeve returned a card of 76-12=64, at Happy Valley, to qualify for the January round of the Adamson Cup competition.

George Sousa (Craigengower) allowing one to pass on the off. A. Zimmern (Kowloon) keeping wicket. Picture taken during the First Division League match at Happy Valley on Saturday.—*Ming Yuen.*

Britain's Fighters Carry On Even When Off Duty

INTERNATIONAL belligerence generally has resulted in the private variety being stimulated considerably. Between 1914-1918 there were twenty-five title fights in England and the Inter-Allied Tournaments during 1918 and 1919 provided an immense stimulus to the boxing game in London.

The Beckett-Carpentier fights brought the game to its apex in London and if their heavyweights were not of the best at the time they had Ted "Kid" Lewis, one of the best welters ever, Jimmy Wilde, a strong contender for the title of the finest fly-weight the world has ever seen, and Tancy Lee, who beat Wilde as a fly-weight and then won the featherweight title three times, annexing the Lonsdale Belt outright for this great performance.

HOW, then, is this war affecting boxing in England? For the first month or two chaos reigned. In the Provinces the game struggled on in Liverpool and the north-east, but in London only one hall, the Devonshire Sporting Club, kept the game alive.

Then Sydney Hulls, probably the principal promoter in England, began Monday afternoon shows at the Stadium Club.

The boxing fraternity, bewildered by the absence of their greatest stimulant, crept ou. of their holes and Monday afternoons became get-together day in which the hand shaking and greetings almost made the actual boxing a poor obligato.

THEN, when no aeroplanes came over, they felt that perhaps this war was not going to be the completely devastating thing they imagined, and Mr Hulls put his shows on in the evenings on Mondays.

The next and really first big boxing event was the lightweight championship title bout at Harringay Arena in which Eric Boon successfully defended his crown against the former champion, Dave Crowley.

This finished disappointing, for after seven rounds, Crowley's Achilles tendon on his right leg went and Boon thus retained his championship. Probably he would have done so anyway, but the mercurial Crowley can be accounted just a little unlucky on that occasion.

Women's Yacht Race

The second women's championship series race sailed by the Yacht Club yesterday over 7.5 miles resulted:

True Blue	4.42.00	Miss Wilson	1
Artemis	4.42.14	Mrs J. E. Potter	2
Redshank	4.42.56	Miss Pritchard	3
Gull	4.43.45	Miss Richards	4

Did not finish.—Maureen.

Y.M.C.A. Cricket Team

The following have been selected to represent Y.M.C.A. against University at cricket on January 26 at Pokfulam:

F. E. Lawrence (captain), W. T. Mitchell, H. D. Bruce, H. Brokenshire, C. T. Enger, A. E. Perry, C. Logan, W. F. Gegg, E. Curtis, W. H. Ingleby, F. Willis. Reserve, G. Davidson. Umpire, C. T. Teiran.

Badminton

CHINESE "Y" BEAT RECREIO 6-3 IN "A" DIVISION

The Chinese "Y" defeated Recreio "A" in a first division badminton league match at the Y.M.C.A., last night by six games to three.

Detailed results:

C. Au and H. Koh (Chinese "Y") beat L. A. Carvalho and M. A. Silva 21-13; beat J. J. Remedios and H. Gonsalves 21-15; beat M. A. Oliveira and A. M. Rodrigues 21-13.

P. H. Wong and T. C. Lau (Chinese "Y") beat Carvalho and Silva 21-8; lost to Remedios and Gonsalves 14-21; lost to Oliveira and Rodrigues 17-21.

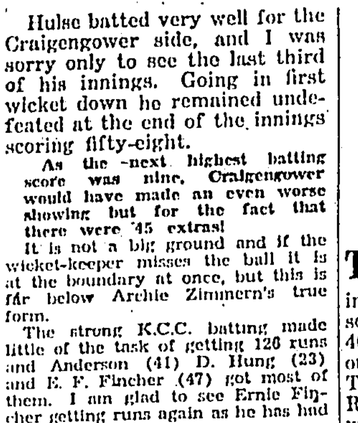
F. Koh and C. Y. Yung (Chinese "Y") beat Carvalho and Silva 21-8; lost to Remedios and Gonsalves 8-21; beat Oliveira and Rodrigues 21-12.

PROPOSAL TO INVITE RIGGS TO AUSTRALIA VETOED

MELBOURNE (UP).—The council of the Australian Lawn Tennis Association have turned down a request from the Queensland Association for permission to invite the American star, Bobby Riggs, to play matches in Australia on behalf of the Red Cross.

The Australian Council took the position that such an invitation would be unfair to the United States Association which had agreed not to challenge for the Davis Cup during the war.

It was also stated that it was inappropriate and inimical to public policy to invite American players to Australia for any other purpose.



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By Ernie Bushmiller

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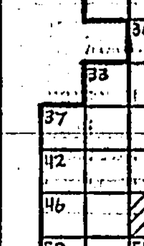

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ATTENTION ON THE BALKANS

With persistent reports of Nazi troop concentrations in Bulgaria and new threats to Greece and Turkey, attention has again been diverted towards the stormy Balkans. Turkey is said to have intimated that she will declare war on Germany if Nazi forces cross from Rumania into Bulgaria. Meanwhile Bulgaria is insisting upon remaining neutral in the present European conflict. The accompanying map illustrates the areas affected by the latest reports from south-eastern Europe.

Clarification Of Balkans Situation

(By "Reuter's" Diplomatic Correspondent)

LONDON, Jan. 13.—Two important official pronouncements during the past 24 hours, one Russian and the other Bulgarian, have helped to clarify the immediate outlook in the Balkans.

They dispose of Nazi-inspired rumours that Germany and Soviet Russia have made a "deal" in the Balkans or that Russia has agreed to the passage of German troops through Bulgaria.

In these circumstances it is probable that the stories of large troop concentrations in Rumania are equally inaccurate though there is undoubtedly a considerable garrison in that country to protect the oilfields.

The Russian statement, coming so soon after the Soviet-German economic and northern frontier pact, emphasises the strictly limited scope of that pact. It also makes clear that the absence of any reference to the Balkans is not an oversight, but is due to the fact that no agreement was reached on the subject.

Bulgarian Declaration

The Bulgarian declaration was made by the Prime Minister, M. Filoff, only a few days after his recent return from Vienna. He reaffirmed Bulgaria's policy of peace and neutrality and alluded to the help of Russia in the recovery of the Dobrudja and he repeated that neither the Nazi nor the Communist system of government was suitable for Bulgaria.

The special significance of this speech is that it was possible for M. Filoff to make such uncompromising statements in the midst of the nerve war which Nazi agents have been fostering and promoting in the Balkans. It suggests that the German scheme has failed to upset the Bulgarian Prime Minister's equilibrium despite tendentious reports that his position is unstable.

Served Under Manchus

Chinese General Dies

SIAN, Jan. 14 (Central News).—The death occurred here yesterday of General Chu Ching-lan, member of the National Relief Commission, at the age of 68.

General Chu, has been doing relief work for refugees in various places despite his advanced age.

He first served under the Manchu Regime as Commander of 17th Army and Inspector-General of Heilungkiang. After the overthrow of the Manchu Regime he became Civil Governor of Kwangtung, and in 1921 Commander-in-Chief of the Chinese Eastern Railway Defence Guards and concurrently Chief Civil Administrator of the Harbin Special Area. Two years later he was Director of Kiaochow Port Affairs.

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12.15 p.m. Short Service of Intercession.

12.30 Tino Rossi (Tenor) and the Orchestra Raymonde.

1.00 Local Time Signal and Weather Report.

1.03 Arthur Askey in Variety.—

1.30 Reuter and Rugby Press, Weather Forecast and Announcements.

1.45 Dance Music by Ambrose and His Orchestra.

2.15 Close Down.

5.45 Indian Programme.

6.30 Closing Local Stock Quotations.

6.32 Schubert—Symphony No. 8 in B Minor (The "Unfinished").—1st Mov: Allegro moderato, 2nd Mov: Andante con moto, Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leopold Stokowski.

6.55 Interlude.—Soiree de Vienne No. 6 (Schubert-Liszt), Wilhelm Backhaus (Piano).

7.00 London Relay—The News.

7.15 London Relay—"Questions of the Hour."

7.30 A Portuguese Programme.

8.00 Local Time Signal, Weather Report and Announcements.

8.03 An hour of Variety

9.00 London Relay—The News and News Commentary.

9.30 London Relay—Talk: "Scots Abroad".

9.45 Scottish Programme.

10.15 Dance Favourites.—Scatter-

11.00 Close Down.

Shot Japanese Expires

SHANGHAI, Jan. 14 (Reuter).—The Japanese civilian, Dr Nishi, who was seriously injured on Sunday when he was shot by an unidentified gunman in Nanking Road, has died.

He was the 16th Japanese shot here since last September though all the other shootings took place in Japanese-controlled areas.

Aid To Britain Bill Obstacle Is Removed: Administration Scores

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The first step to rush the Lease and Lend Bill through Congress was taken to-day when a vote in the House o Representatives cleared the way for the Bill to come before the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House.

An effort by the Military Affairs Committee to bring the measure under its control was defeated.

The vote was taken without a debate as the rules of House allow no discussion on such an issue.

Mr Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, will be the first witness at tomorrow's hearing.

To-day's vote is regarded as a victory for the Administration in the first brush with Congress over the Bill.

Dollar Holdings

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Support appears to be steadily growing for the suggestion that Britain should be requested to post the bulk of her remaining dollar holdings in the United States against materials to be supplied under the Lease and Lend plan.

The influential "Washington Post" endorses the proposal but recalls Mr Andrew Mellon's statement in the War Debts debate that a good customber in Europe is worth more in dollars and cents than all war debts lumped together and asks, "Are we going to intensify the improvement of Europe which might then be our outstanding problem as well as theirs?"

Post-War Adjustment

It also draws attention to the possibility of using the Lease and Lend Bill and any provision in it, for posting collateral in order to cushion the shocks to the United States and the world generally in the period of post-war re-adjustment.

The newspaper suggests the use of part of Britain's overseas assets to buy foodstuffs and materials necessary to put post-war Europe back on its feet.

Spokesman Named

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—Congressional opponents to the "Aid Britain" Bill have picked Senator Burton Wheeler as co-leader of the bi-partisan strategy group.

The Republican leader will be either Senator Robert Tafe or Senator Arthur Vandenburg. One will be named at a meeting this week to help lead the fight against the Bill. It is understood the first objective will be an effort drastically to limit the powers which will be granted to the President.

Revised Form of Bill

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (UP).—In the House of Representatives to-day, Rep. Kenneth Simpson introduced a revised form of an "Aid to Britain" Bill which would limit President Roosevelt's authority to two years, and restrict loans to members of the Commonwealth and Ireland.

Mr Simpson said that he had conferred with Mr Wendell Willkie before introducing the Bill, but he declined to elaborate on this statement.

The Bill is offered as an amendment and also provides that other nations included in the original Bill have to be named by a concurrent resolution of Congress.

Investment Trust Parleys

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Henry Morgenthau, United States Secretary of Treasury, disclosed to-day that the British Government is negotiating with large groups of American investment trusts for the sale of British investments in the United States.

Mr Morgenthau said, "One very large group of investment trusts has made one offer and another group will make an offer to-morrow." He added that Sir Frederick Phillips, the British Treasury representative now in Washington, had informed him that the British Government was "ready to do business with them."

Mr Morgenthau said that he could not estimate the amount of securities that might be involved or disclose the identity of the companies which might buy them.

The British were encountering no great difficulty in selling American securities regularly traded on organized exchanges.

The Federal Board recently placed the value of these investments at $850,000,000.

Time Limit

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The suggestion of a possible attempt to impose a time limit on the powers given to President Roosevelt under the Aid for Britain Bill was made at a press conference held by Mr Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives, to-day.

Mr. Rayburn said that he would not oppose the imposition of a time limit provided that the limit "ran concurrently with the emergency."

Wendell Willkie

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Mr Wendell Willkie's support of the "Lease and Lend Bill" which has been heartily welcomed by the Administration and most Democrats may determine his future position and influence in the Republican Party.

Certainly his statement has caused a split in the Party and it remains to be seen whether he can carry the majority of the Republicans with him or whether they will go over to the Landon-Hoover group.

Mr Willkie gets considerable support in the press. The staunchly Republican "Baltimore Sun" comments that he has risen above partisanship in advocating the general principle of the Bill and asking for safeguards to ensure reversion to the people the powers that the Bill delegates to the President.

NEW BOMBER TYPES CROSS ATLANTIC

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—The recent extension of the R.A.F. offensive to regular daylight as well as night bombardments lends additional interest to the news that four different kinds of United States bombers for the R.A.F. are being flown across the Atlantic.

A large number of certain types have arrived and a continuous stream will be maintained in future.

The four types are the Lockheed Hudson long-range reconnaissance bomber for the Coastal Command; the Boeing B17 four-engine bomber, popularly called the "flying fortress"; the Consolidated two-engine flying-boat; and the Lockheed Vega Ventura bomber.

Details of New Types

LONDON, Jan. 13 (Reuter).—Britain's 1941 air offensive, already begun, will be given fresh punch by at least four new types of American bombers.

The Boeing bomber, powerfully armed, is said to be able to carry four tons of bombs and its range is such that it is estimated that it could cross the Atlantic with a full war load of petrol and bombs. It will join the even bigger and more powerful British Short Sterling in dealing with every part of Germany's 1941 "knock out plans."

The twin-engined flying boat will boost up the strength of the R.A.F. Coastal Command where it needs it most, namely in joint protection of Atlantic convoys.

The Lockheed Hudson Vega Ventura is said to be larger and faster than the Lockheed Hudson type already famous for its work with the R.A.F. The Lockheed Hudson type now in service is considered the best all-purpose Coastal reconnaissance bomber of 1940 possessed by Britain or Germany. They have a range of from 1,500 miles upwards and to fly the Atlantic they are fitted with special tanks.

Nazi shipping and convoys, indeed any enemy vessel along the Nazi-controlled European coastline are special targets of these swift well-armed medium bombers.

Altogether there are now available to Britain some 30 types of American warplanes which are being ferried across the Atlantic by sea and air.

Planes Over Switzerland

Official Communique

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

GENEVA, Jan. 13 (UP).—The air alarm was sounded here at 8.30 a.m.

An Army Staff communique issued in Berne to-day says, "By means of detectors it was ascertained that a small number of foreign planes circled over the Canton of Vaud, Lake Geneva between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. entering from the south near Lausanne and departing in the direction of Savoy."

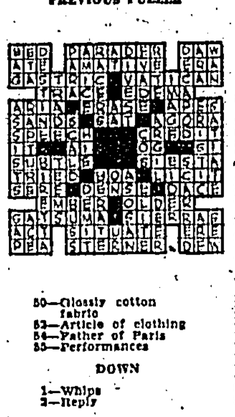
It was stated that foreign planes repeatedly between midnight and five a.m. violated Swiss territory at Kostern in the eastern area, as well as the Canton of Grisons near Chur in southeastern Switzerland.

There were alarms at several points. The communique did not identify the planes.

Crossword Puzzle

By LARS MORRIS

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



ACROSS

1—Stringed instrument
6—From then till now
11—Terminating
13—Recently conquered European nation
14—In the manner
15—Servants
17—For example (abbr.)
18—Couple
20—Wireless receiving set
21—Madame (abbr.)
22—Transmit
24—2,000 pounds
25—Arabian magistrate
26—Attack
28—Primate mammals
30—Screen
32—Obligation
33—Stops
35—Steering strap for horse
37—Lolly
38—At suit of (abbr.)
40—German industrial region
42—Combining form: goose
43—Child's playing-marble
45—Greek island
46—Advertisement
47—Duties paid on landed goods
49—French article
50—Glossy cotton fabric
53—Article of clothing
54—Father of Paris
55—Performances

DOWN

1—Whips
2—Reply
3—Western state (abbr.)
4—James
5—An effectual one (slang)
6—All alone
7—They (French)
8—North America (abbr.)
9—Shin-bone
10—Provided with sharp edge
12—Small insect
17—Ashes
18—Worshipped image
19—Medieval military engines
21—Inhabitant of Mars
23—Boiled
25—Solids with square sides
27—Forming tool
29—Meridian (abbr.)
31—Fabled creature
33—East Indian cedar tree
34—Center of solar system
36—Fastened with nails
37—Eager
39—Male deer
41—Utters loud cry
43—Exclamation
44—Minced oath
47—Large body of water
48—Preceding
51—Note of scale
53—Tellurium

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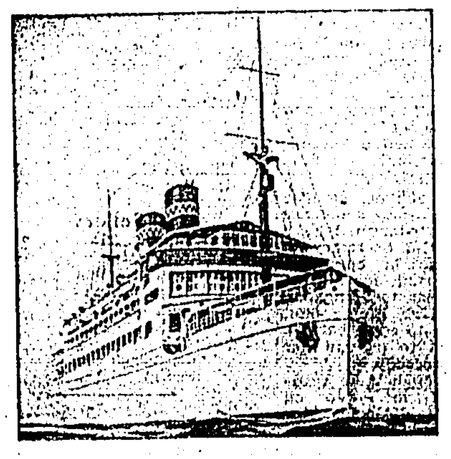

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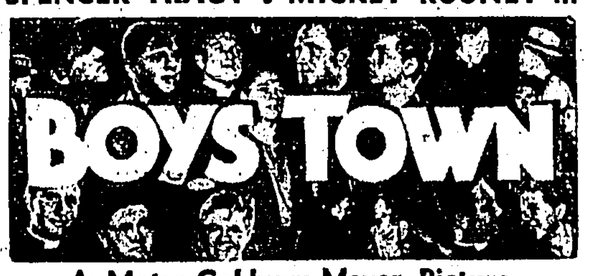

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TO-MORROW : "ROBERTA"

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EVACUATION TEST CASE AT SUPREME COURT

FROM PAGE ONE

board the steamer Tjitjalengka for Amoy, as she was not allowed to book for Hongkong, but could only pass through as a transit passenger.

Opposition To Landing

She sailed from Manila on November 10 and knew nothing of the regulations published that date in Hongkong. She was in possession of a British passport. On arrival in Hongkong, she was refused permission to land, but was ultimately allowed to do so and was taken to the Immigration Office, where she was told she would have to leave Hongkong on November 24.

However, her husband succeeded in getting her permission to stay in the Colony until November 30 on providing a bond, which he signed under protest. Mrs Blair did not sail on November 30.

On December 30, she received a letter from the Colonial Secretary, in which the latter stated that she had contravened the regulations by her failure to leave. Enquiries were being made regarding ship accommodation and the date of departure and the Police had instructions, under the Regulations, to take her into custody shortly before the ship sailed and to see her on board. The letter ended by asking Mrs Blair not to regard it as a mere threat, but to give it her serious attention.

Did not Intend to Leave

Messrs Hastings and Company replied to that letter saying that Mrs Blair did not intend to leave Hongkong and that they were instructed to apply for a writ of injunction or a writ of *habeas corpus*. No reply was received.

The interesting and important facts, Counsel continued, were that:

(1) Mrs Blair was a British subject,

(2) she was a resident in Hongkong for 20 years;

(3) she was domiciled in Hongkong.

These facts were not traversed in the affidavit of reply filed by the Hon. Mr Smith.

Another interesting fact was that it was on the very day when these regulations were promulgated that Mrs Blair, in ignorance of these regulations, left Manila for Hongkong. These were the only regulations with which the Court was concerned.

On December 28, a reply was filed by the Hon. Mr Smith in which he stated that in 1938, it was considered of vital importance to the defence of the Colony to evacuate those women and children whose presence was likely to add to the difficulties of defence. The Government prepared a scheme covering such an evacuation which was completed in 1939 and was made public soon after the war broke out.

On June 29, 1940, a public announcement was made over the radio that British women and children of European race were to prepare for evacuation, and directions were received the next day from His Majesty's Government for this to be put into effect. The notice for evacuation was published in the Press on June 30 and July 1.

Number Evacuated

In all, the affidavit continued, 3,440 women and children were evacuated to Manila. They comprised the wives and children of the Royal Navy, the Army, the Royal Air Force, the Hongkong Naval Volunteer Force, and civilian families.

"Part of my argument will be that the Regulations which we are questioning now cannot be said to be reasonably capable of ensuring the safety of the Colony or any of the objects set out under the Defence of the Realm Act," said Mr d'Almada.

"At a rough estimate—a conservative estimate—I should say that we have in Hongkong at the moment 500,000 women and children of different races and nationalities, and the 3,440 who have been evacuated form less than one per cent. of that conservatively estimated number. I dare say these figures can be checked up with the last census, but as we all know, the population has considerably increased since then, and the number of women and children is nearer 750,000."

For the purpose of his case, Counsel went on, he would not traverse the legality of the regulations made on June 20, 1940, but would concern himself only with the Regulations published on November 19 which prohibited the landing of women and children over the age of 18 in the Colony unless they had a permit issued by the Commissioner of Police.

Testing Position

Mr. Smith in his affidavit claimed that the evacuation was a defence measure which was confirmed by a communication of the Secretary of State for the Colonies in reply to a petition by the husbands for the return of their families to Hongkong but, Counsel argued, Mrs Blair should certainly be entitled to come back to the Colony at least to try out her position by these proceedings.

"Presumably, although these regulations were still in force on November 6," said Mr d'Almada, "the policy of evacuating white women and children from Hongkong was abandoned by the Government and with the knowledge that a large number of women to whom exemption from evacuation was granted was here at the time; and it is also clear from a paragraph in Mr Smith's affidavit that from July until November 19, a certain number of evacuated women returned to the Colony without obtaining any special permission. That is of extreme interest to this case.

Purpose Abandoned

"That policy of getting rid of British women and children from the Colony which allegedly, and we must accept it, was for the purpose of ensuring the defence of the Colony, was abandoned a fortnight before Mrs Blair's return to Hongkong. We have the extraordinary position of no effort being made to get rid of the remaining women and children still in Hongkong, and still Mrs Blair is not allowed to return to her home.

Mr d'Almada read a passage from Mr. Smith's affidavit dealing with various subterfuges used by women to return to the Colony such as by purporting to be transit passengers on steamers to Hongkong.

The purpose of the Regulations, stated Mr Smith in his affidavit, was to put a stop to the practice of British women and children entering the Colony without a permit or committing a breach of their permit to stay in the Colony for a certain period. The avowed object of the Regulations was to keep out British women who otherwise might have attempted to return to the Colony after the evacuation order, and British women subject to evacuation, who were out of the Colony at the time the evacuation was carried out.

"Our case, as the writ clearly shows, is that these Regulations are *ultra vires*, and we seek a declaration accordingly and the injunction mentioned in the writ. We do not suggest that by appropriate legislation the Government cannot achieve the Regulations. Any suggestion that Mrs. Blair can be excluded from the Colony under the Regulations is out of the question. Steps can be properly taken to send away people of the Realm."

Mr d'Almada read passages dealing with the position in peace and in time of war.

Rights Taken Away

Mr D'Almada continued: "In no single case under the 1914 Act was there anything approaching such a radical, such a gross, such a wholesale, taking away of the rights of the people, of so fundamental a right as Mrs Blair's right, in this case, to be in Hongkong. In none of these cases was there anything approaching such an infringement. The regulations under that act (1914 act) were such as to affect various circumstances. Under our regulations (the Defence Entry Restrictions Regulations) no person can disembark here unless he has a passport and has first obtained under such a passport a written endorsement by a competent authority to enter the colony."

Case continuing.

Opposition To All Aid To China

FROM PAGE ONE

essential to the defence of the United States, but he said that the American people are "not yet convinced with the same intensity that aid to Britain is essential to our own security." He said he believed that applied similarly for the Greeks, the French De Gaullists and other belligerents.

Before Mr Simpson offered the Bill, the Speaker of the House, Mr Sam Rayburn, at a press conference indicated that the Administration would not oppose the efforts to limit Presidential powers to the current emergency.

The hearings on the Aid for Britain Bill are expected to begin next Tuesday in the House Foreign Affairs Committee which has invited Mr Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, Colonel Henry Stimson, Secretary of War, Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, and Mr Henry Morgenthau, Secretary of the Treasury to testify.

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee will begin consideration on Wedesday.

Italian Destroyer Sunk In Sea Battle

FROM PAGE ONE

planes flew over and strongly attacked the British naval units.

The day's fighting continued almost incessantly from dawn to dusk when the German dive-bomber group took part in a daring concentrated attack on this ship.

Italian planes also participated in the five air attacks to-day in which seven planes are known to have been shot down.

This was the first instance of dive-bombing in this area since the start of the war.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Hongkong Stock Exchange Official Summary, issued yesterday says:

Although a steady undertone prevails the volume remains negligible.

Buyers

Union Ins. $405
H.K. Fire Ins. $165
Wharves $94
Humphreys $7.75
Trams $17.00
Star Ferries $61
Lights Rts Cts 90
Entertainments $7
Constructions "O" $1.60

Sellers

Lights Rts Cts. 95
Cements $18.60
Vibro Piling $7.70

Sales

H.K. Banks $1,380
Hotels $3.50
Trams $18
Lights Rts 90/95 cts.
Electrics $40

French Retreat Is Denied

The French Consulate here has received official denials from Indo-China that the French retreated 35 miles from the border on Sisophon as was reported by a news agency.

The message also denies a Shanghai report that Japanese naval authorities have sought the use of Saigon.

Corporal Willis of Military Police reported to the Police yesterday that between January 4 and 13 some person stole a quantity of cable from Kennedy Road. The cable is worth $70.

LATE NEWS

Ferries Collide And Sink

Two ferries of the Hongkong and Yaumati Ferry Co., Ltd. sank in the harbour this afternoon after being involved in a collision off Holt's Wharf.

The vessels concerned were the Man Sing and Man Ping. The former left the Hongkong vehicular ferry wharf for Kowloon City at 12.15 p.m., and the other ferry was bound for Hongkong from Hunghom.

When the two vessels were off Holt's Wharf, both made an effort to avoid collision with a junk. That is apparently how the two ferries came to grief. The exact cause of the collision has not been officially announced.

The passengers of the two boats were transferred to other ferries which came to the scene. The Man Ping was too badly damaged to warrant towing, but the Man Sing was towed back to the central wharf.

Both ferries have, however, since submerged.

Evacuation Test Case Hearing

Summing up his address, Mr d'Almada declared:

"Such persons infringing the regulations shall be detained and returned to his (or her) port of embarkation. Your Lordship must decide whether the Defence of the Realm Act ever contemplated that such a Regulation should be made under it. I submit such an invasion of the rights of people were never contemplated or intended.

Mr d'Almada concluded by dealing with three points (1) that the Regulations must be made honestly, (2) they must be intended to be made for the purpose of the Act and (3) they must, in face of it, be reasonably capable of securing public safety.

The effect of the Regulations, he added, was to send Mrs Blair back to Manila, where she was an alien.

The hearing is proceeding.

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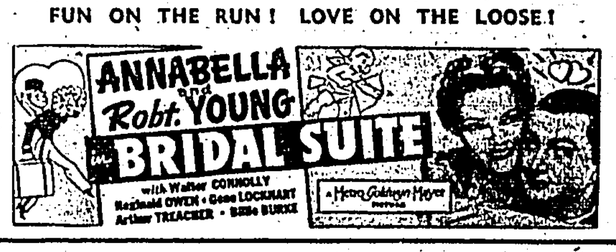

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